

Mila university center

English for specific purposes (technical English)

Department of ST

Present simple:

positive		
He/she	works	In Paris
I/we/you/they	work	
This tool	cuts	woods
Those tools	cut	

Negative		
He/she	Does not work	In Rome
I/we/you/they	Do not work	
This tool	Does not cut	Metal
Those tools	Do not cut	

Modal verbs: must, could and might

you	Must wear	A hard hat here
you	Must not	Touch the machine
you	could hurt	Hurt yourself

Present continuous:

positive			
I	am	pressing	The accelerator
You,we,they	are	breaking	The safety rules
He,she	Is	turning	The steering wheel
The ar	Is	moving	To the left

Negative			
I	am not	pressing	The brake pedal now
You,we,they	are	following	The safety rules
He,she	Is		The steering wheel
The car	Is	Not moving	

Present perfect:

positive			
I,you,we,they	have	damaged	The car
He,she,it	has	broken	The windscreen

Negative			
I,you,we, they	Have not	dented	The pumper
He,she,it	Has not	broken	The lamps

Past simple:

positive		
I,we,they,he,she	went	To the office
The incident	happened	Last week

Negative			
I,you,we,she,he,they	Did not	go	To paris last year
The incident	Did not	happen	yesterday

Past and past participle examples

Verb	Past and past p
Attach	attached
close	closed
connect	connected
cool	cooled
crack	cracked
crash	crashed
damage	damaged
dent	dented
disconnect	disconnected
drop	dropped
fit	fitted
Inspect	inspected
launch	launched
mount	mounted
press	pressed
remove	removed
repair	repaired
replace	replaced
scratch	scratched

Passive voice and a active voice:

The active voice promotes simple, straightforward writing. As such, most scientific journals encourage the use of the active voice over the passive voice

Active voice – the subject acts.

Passive voice – the subject is acted upon.

Present tense – tense often used in the *Introduction/Discussion/Conclusion*

Example 1:

Active: Vitamin A increases the risk of hair loss.

Passive: The risk of hair loss is increased by vitamin A.

Example 2:

Active: Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) emitted from industries and vehicle exhausts can induce a series of environmental problems, including photochemical smog, broken ozonosphere, and environmental pollution.

Passive: A series of environmental problems, including photochemical smog, broken ozonosphere, and environmental pollution, can be induced by volatile organic compounds (VOCs) emitted from industries and vehicle exhausts.

Present tense – tense often used for *Aims*

Example 1:

Active: In this study, we present our design of an electric hot water tank.

Passive: In this study, a design of an electric hot water tank is presented.

Example 2:

Active: This study develops an efficient methodology to examine a space–time continuous dataset for urban irrigation water use.

Passive: An efficient methodology to examine a space–time continuous dataset for urban irrigation water use is developed in this study.

Present perfect – tense often used in the *Introduction/Discussion/Conclusion*

Example 1:

Active: Previous studies have used comparative analysis of ORF2 sequences to elucidate phylogenetic relationships among different FCV isolates.

Passive: Comparative analysis of ORF2 sequences has been used in previous studies to elucidate phylogenetic relationships among different FCV isolates.

Example 2:

Active: Only a small number of empirical studies have focused on the patterns and mechanisms behind disease clusters at small spatial scales, especially in wild host–pathogen systems [2].

Passive: The patterns and mechanisms behind disease clusters at small spatial scales, especially in wild host–pathogen systems, have been focused on by only a small number of empirical studies [2].

Past tense – tense often used in the *Materials and Methods/Results*

Example 1:

Active: We determined the presence of larvae by dip netting.

Passive: The presence of larvae was determined by dip netting.

Example 2:

Active: We evaluated the number of haplotypes (h), haplotypes (Hd), and nucleotides (π) using the DnaSP 5.10 program [2].

Passive: The number of haplotypes (h), haplotypes (Hd), and nucleotides (π) was evaluated using the DnaSP 5.10 program [2].

Example 3:

Active: We found a strong correlation between above-ground and below-ground biomass accumulation in *Platanus occidentalis*.

Passive: A strong correlation was found between above-ground and below-ground biomass accumulation in *Platanus occidentalis*.

