



## Passive in Different Tenses: Present & Past Continuous Passive

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

1. A new shopping centre \_\_\_\_ near my house right now.  
a) is built  
b) has been built  
c) was being built  
d) is being built
2. When I arrived, the car \_\_\_\_ by a mechanic.  
a) was repaired  
b) was being repaired  
c) is being repaired  
d) had been repaired
3. The children \_\_\_\_ after by their grandmother this week.  
a) are looked  
b) were being looked  
c) are being looked  
d) have been looked
4. At 3 p.m. yesterday, the students \_\_\_\_ by the headteacher.  
a) were being addressed  
b) were addressed  
c) are being addressed  
d) had been addressed
5. Look! The old building across the street \_\_\_\_.  
a) was being demolished  
b) is being demolished  
c) is demolished  
d) has been demolished
6. While the road \_\_\_\_, we had to use a different route.  
a) is being resurfaced  
b) was resurfaced  
c) was being resurfaced  
d) has been resurfaced
7. The documents \_\_\_\_ at the moment, so you'll have to wait.  
a) review  
b) are reviewed  
c) were being reviewed  
d) are being reviewed
8. When the fire broke out, dinner \_\_\_\_ in the kitchen.  
a) was prepared  
b) had been prepared  
c) is being prepared  
d) was being prepared
9. Don't go into the hall — the floor \_\_\_\_.  
a) is painted  
b) is being painted  
c) was being painted  
d) paints
10. The suspect \_\_\_\_ by two police officers when he escaped.  
a) is being questioned  
b) was questioned  
c) was being questioned  
d) has been questioned
11. Currently, new safety measures \_\_\_\_ across all factories.  
a) introduce  
b) are introduced  
c) were being introduced  
d) are being introduced

12. At that time, a new bridge \_\_\_\_ over the river.  
a) was constructed  
b) is being constructed  
c) was being constructed  
d) constructed
13. Ssh! The baby \_\_\_\_ to sleep by her mother.  
a) is being put  
b) was being put  
c) is put  
d) puts
14. The house \_\_\_\_ when the storm hit last night.  
a) renovated  
b) is being renovated  
c) was being renovated  
d) was renovated
15. This week, the exams \_\_\_\_ in the main hall.  
a) are being held  
b) hold  
c) were being held  
d) are held
16. While the cake \_\_\_\_, the children decorated the table.  
a) baked  
b) was baked  
c) is being baked  
d) was being baked
17. The patient \_\_\_\_ right now, so the doctor can't see you yet.  
a) examines  
b) is being examined  
c) is examined  
d) was being examined
18. When I called the office, the problem \_\_\_\_ by the IT team.  
a) dealt with  
b) was being dealt with  
c) is being dealt with  
d) was dealt with
19. Careful! The glasses \_\_\_\_ — don't touch the shelf.  
a) are being arranged  
b) are arranged  
c) arrange  
d) were being arranged
20. The witness \_\_\_\_ by the lawyer when the judge entered the courtroom.  
a) was being cross-examined  
b) is being cross-examined  
c) cross-examined  
d) was cross-examined



## Answers

1. d) is being built
2. b) was being repaired
3. c) are being looked
4. a) were being addressed
5. b) is being demolished
6. c) was being resurfaced
7. d) are being reviewed
8. d) was being prepared
9. b) is being painted
10. c) was being questioned
11. d) are being introduced
12. c) was being constructed
13. a) is being put
14. c) was being renovated
15. a) are being held
16. d) was being baked
17. b) is being examined
18. b) was being dealt with
19. a) are being arranged
20. a) was being cross-examined



# Explanations

## 1. “is being built” (d)

Use the present continuous passive (is/are being + past participle) because the action is happening right now. 'Right now' signals a present continuous tense.

## 2. “was being repaired” (b)

Use the past continuous passive (was/were being + past participle) because the action was in progress at the moment of arrival. 'When I arrived' sets a past moment.

## 3. “are being looked” (c)

Use the present continuous passive (are being + past participle) because 'this week' indicates a temporary situation in progress now. 'Look after' is a phrasal verb — the preposition stays with the verb.

## 4. “were being addressed” (a)

Use the past continuous passive (were being + past participle). 'At 3 p.m. yesterday' pinpoints a specific moment in the past when the action was in progress.

## 5. “is being demolished” (b)

'Look!' tells us the action is happening right now, so we need the present continuous passive: is being + past participle.

## 6. “was being resurfaced” (c)

Use the past continuous passive because 'while' indicates an ongoing action in the past. The road resurfacing was in progress when we needed another route.

## 7. “are being reviewed” (d)

'At the moment' signals a present continuous action. Use the present continuous passive: are being + past participle.

## 8. “was being prepared” (d)

Use the past continuous passive because dinner preparation was in progress when the fire started. 'When the fire broke out' sets a past interruption point.

## 9. “is being painted” (b)

The warning implies the painting is happening now, so use the present continuous passive: is being + past participle.

## 10. “was being questioned” (c)

The questioning was in progress at the time of the escape. Use the past continuous passive: was being + past participle.

## 11. “are being introduced” (d)

'Currently' signals an action in progress now. Use the present continuous passive: are being + past participle.

## 12. “was being constructed” (c)

'At that time' refers to a specific moment in the past. Use the past continuous passive: was being + past participle.

## 13. “is being put” (a)

'Ssh!' implies we need to be quiet right now because the action is happening at this moment. Use the present continuous passive.

**14. “was being renovated” (c)**

The renovation was in progress when the storm interrupted. 'When the storm hit' sets the past interruption. Use the past continuous passive.

**15. “are being held” (a)**

'This week' indicates a current, temporary situation. Use the present continuous passive: are being + past participle.

**16. “was being baked” (d)**

'While' introduces a simultaneous past action in progress. Use the past continuous passive: was being + past participle.

**17. “is being examined” (b)**

'Right now' clearly marks the present moment. Use the present continuous passive: is being + past participle.

**18. “was being dealt with” (b)**

'When I called' sets a past moment. The problem was being handled at that time. Note: 'deal with' keeps its preposition in the passive.

**19. “are being arranged” (a)**

'Careful!' and 'don't touch' imply the action is happening now. Use the present continuous passive: are being + past participle.

**20. “was being cross-examined” (a)**

The cross-examination was in progress when the judge entered. 'When the judge entered' sets the past interruption point. Use the past continuous passive.