Passif en anglais

1. Forme de base

Sujet + BE (conjugué) + Participe Passé (+ by-agent)

- Actif : They build houses.
- Passif : Houses are built (by them).

Note : “by…” est souvent omis.

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2. Passif selon les temps

- Présent simple : The car is washed every week.
- Passé simple : The house was built in 1900.
- Futur simple : The report will be finished tomorrow.
- Present perfect : The project has been completed.
- Past perfect : The meeting had been canceled.
- Modaux : The problem can be solved.
- Modaux + perfect : The project should have been completed.

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3. Quand utiliser le passif ?

- Agent inconnu : My wallet was stolen.
- Agent non important : The road is cleaned at night.
- Accent sur l’objet / résultat : The law was passed in 1999.

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4. Cas avancés

- **Deux objets**
  1. They gave me a book.
  2. I was given a book.
  3. A book was given to me.
- **It is said that… / He is said to…**
  1. People say she is rich.
  2. It is said that she is rich.
  3. She is said to be rich.
- **Modaux perfect**
  1. He must have been seen by the police.
- **Verbes à particule**
  1. Everyone laughed at him.
  2. He was laughed at.

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5. Points d’attention

- Certains verbes ne se mettent pas au passif : fit, have, resemble…
- Trop de passif = style lourd (surtout presse, science, droit).
- Attention aux temps :
  1. They told us… → We were told… (et pas “have been”).

Résumé : Actif → Passif = BE (conjugué au temps voulu) + Participe Passé

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