

7.2

GRAMMAR

The Passive

I can use the Passive in the Present Simple, Present Perfect and Past Simple.

1 **SPEAKING** Discuss the questions.

- Who usually does the shopping in your family?
- What food products do you and your family usually buy?
- Which of the things in the box are important when you buy these kinds of products?

the quality how it is produced
where it is produced a fair price

2 Read the text about Fairtrade. Why is it good for farmers?



Many of the products we buy in supermarkets are grown by farmers in developing countries. But farmers **aren't paid** enough to make a living.

So the idea of 'fair trade' has been around for many years. When you see the FAIRTRADE mark on a product, you know that the farmers have been paid a fair price for their crops. You also know that they have been given extra money – the Fairtrade premium. This can be used by farmers to develop their businesses, invest in their communities or protect the environment.

In 1997, many organisations from different countries came together and one international Fairtrade organisation **was formed**. So far, the lives of approximately seven million people in developing countries **have been improved** by Fairtrade.



3 Read the GRAMMAR FOCUS. Then find all the passive verb forms in the text in Exercise 2.

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The Passive

You use passive forms when it isn't important (or you don't know) who performed the action. Passive verbs have the same tenses as active verbs.

The Passive: be + Past Participle

+	Fairtrade products are grown in developing countries.
-	Fairtrade products aren't grown in developed countries.
?	Where are Fairtrade products grown ?

4 Complete the examples in the table using the passive forms in blue in the text in Exercise 2.

Present Simple

Active

People **don't pay** farmers enough.

Passive

Farmers ¹ _____ enough.

Past Simple

Active

In 1997, somebody **formed** one international Fairtrade organisation.

Passive

In 1997, one international Fairtrade organisation ² _____.

Present Perfect

Active

Fairtrade **has improved** the lives of approximately seven million people in developing countries. **Passive**

The lives of approximately seven million people in developing countries ³ _____ by Fairtrade.

5 Choose the correct form of the verb, active or passive.

Chocolate & Fairtrade

Last year, more than one billion kilos of chocolate ¹ate / **were eaten** around the world. Chocolate ²makes / **is made** from the cacao plant. However, many cacao farmers ³don't earn / **aren't earned** enough money and ⁴can't afford / **can't be afforded** food, medicine or clean water. In Africa, a typical cacao grower ⁵pays / **is paid** less than a dollar a day. Now Fairtrade is helping farmers to get fair prices. Farming organisations ⁶have set up / **have been set up** in African countries and the extra money ⁷invests / **is invested** in projects such as drinking water.



6 Complete the passive sentences with the Present Simple, Past Simple or Present Perfect form of the verbs in brackets.

- My house **was built** (build) more than fifty years ago.
- My name **is pronounced** (not pronounce) the same in English.
- My shoes _____ (make) in Italy.
- This school _____ (open) in the 1990s.
- I _____ (never/stop) by the police.
- Fairtrade products _____ (not sell) in my country.

7 **SPEAKING** Rewrite the sentences in Exercise 6 to make them true for you. Then make questions and ask your partner.

- Was your house built more than fifty years ago?