

WAYS OF CONVEYING THE PASSIVE VOICE CONSTRUCTIONS

English passive constructions are far from always transplanted to Ukrainian language.

Some ways of expressing the passive voice in both languages may coincide in form and structure:

She was faintly disturbed by what mother had said. – Вона була децю стурбована тим, що сказала її мати.

Others should be transformed, in order to achieve faithfulness in translation:

In the U.N. peace plan is implemented, frozen Serb assets in the USA would be released. – Якщо план мирного врегулювання ООН буде здійснений, заморожені рахунки Сербії у США будуть відпущені.

English passive forms referring to present tense have mostly no structural equivalents in Ukrainian where the auxiliary verb **to be (є)** is usually omitted and the past participle acquires other morphological (e.g. finite form) and semantic expression:

Rescue efforts are being hampered dozens of aftershocks, below-freezing temperatures. – Рятувальним роботам перешкоджають повторні поштовхи і температура, що падає нижче нуля.

One more faithful Ukrainian transformation of this passive sentence construction may be achieved by way of conveying it through the so-called middle voice form or **-ся/-сь** verb: *Рятувальні роботи ускладнюються повторними підземними поштовхами і температурою, що падає нижче нуля.*

Depending on the form of the passive construction and still more on the lexical verbal meaning, this voice form may have in Ukrainian some still other transformations, which express the same meaning of the passive construction; they may acquire the following outer forms of expression in Ukrainian:

a) that of an indefinite personal sentence/clause:

I am told that pork-packing is the most lucrative profession after politics in America. – Кажуть, що в Америці пакування свинини – найбільш прибуткова праця після політики.

b) that of single predicative word/simple nominal predicate:

They're prepared to sacrifice everything to satisfy their yearning. – Вони ладні пожертвувати всім, аби задовольнити/здійснити своє прагнення.

c) a finite form of the verb/simple verbal predicate:

*He has never **been answered**.* – *Його ще ніхто і ніколи не спростовував.*

d) an indefinite personal past participle ending in **-но/-то**:

*The room **had certainly been transformed**.* – *У кімнаті безперечно зроблено перестановку.*

e) any other contextual and structural substitution of the English passive voice predicate verb:

*I **must be left** to myself for a while.* – *Мені треба якийсь час побути самому/самим із собою.*

Not infrequently the Ukrainian past participle in its predicative function may be one, if not the only possible passive form equivalent of the English passive construction in Ukrainian:

*Their children slept, **their gate was shut** for the night.* – *Їхні діти спали, і (їхня) брама була зачинена на ніч.*

The common English passive voice constructions with the prepositional object as their subject have generally no equivalent passive constructions in Ukrainian. They are rendered then with the of the indefinite personal forms of the verb (sometimes through reflexive verbs) :

*Why do you not answer when you **are spoken to**?* – *Чому ви не відповідаєте, коли до вас звертаються?*

Consequently, some English passive voice constructions often change their outer and inner form and become active voice forms in Ukrainian.

EXERCISES

Ex.1. Offer possible Ukrainian non-passive transforms/outer forms for the English passive voice constructions and translate the sentences into Ukrainian.

1. He was haunted by a fear. 2. Also he was rendered self-conscious by the company. 3. It (furniture) was given to us as a wedding present by Mr. Bradley's father. 4. They entertained lavishly and were lavishly entertained. 5. Gregory Brabazov was in Chicago at the time the purchase was made and the decoration (of the house) was entrusted to him. 6. I had recently brought out a successful novel – and I had no sooner arrived than I was interviewed. 7. There are men who are possessed by an urge so strong to do some particular thing that they can't help themselves. 8. He was so incommunicable that I was forced to the conclusion that he had asked me to lunch with him merely to enjoy my company. 9. But here she encountered in her husband an obstinacy, which she had not for years been accustomed to. 10. She was puzzled by Isabel. 11. I'm told she's rather good. 12. She

might have been asked to go too. 13. I'm afraid a lot of your private papers were burned. 14. And when the Indian veteran came there, he was told the blunt truth. 15. I suppose in about a fortnight we shall be told that he has been seen in San Francisco. 16. Immediately after their marriage Couperwood and Aileen journeyed to Chicago direct and they were given there the best room that Frencout provided for the time being. 17. Caroline, or Sister Carry – was possessed of a mind rudimentary in its power of observation and analysis. 18. In certain emergencies he was called to assist his father, and was paid for it. 19. Only after a minute did she realize that she had been awakened by a knock at their saloon door. 20. People have been asking those questions for thousands of years and they could be answered, surely they'd have been answered, by now. 21. We've been sort of pals and it's not my business to talk unless I'm spoken to. 22. Clovis was sent for in haste, and the development of the situation was put before him. 23. We were questioned, all of us. 24. The door was opened by a tall and stout Negro butler with white hair and we were ushered into the drawing-room. 25. Most of the actors wanted to think Logan was crying because he was being arrested. 26. “I am urgently needed at Apia,” said Dr. Macphail. 27. Young Bossiney has been run over in the fog and killed. 28. Water was given her. 29. He was beaten. 30. I was surprised that I had been asked to this party. 31. The two persons, who were hustled away, did not take it well. 32. They were made for the third Duke of Dorset and they're almost priceless. 33. She was a trifle taken aback that it had all gone so easily. 34. I presume that in a day or two we shall be fixed up for the rest of the season. 35. Mr. Afghan North was robbed and he made a complaint. 36. The car had been built on a special chassis in America. 37. She was received only by Ting-a-Ling, who had his back to the fire, and took no notice beyond a stare. 38. I was wired for. 39. Some things had been lost sight of. 40. The bed had not even been lain on. 41. She was told that a message could be left for him. 42. Do not pass judgement, that you may not be judged. 43. You either make both tree and fruit to be rotten; for the tree is known by its fruit. 44. She hastened around to the side entrance and was taken up by the elevator to the fourth floor. 45. Not a word of it, in my interpretation, is actually spoken. 46. They're not the sort of people I've been brought up with. 47. Isabel appeared to be delighted and Mrs. Bradley was reassured. 48. She was rather pretty and I was rather taken with her. 49. Face and neck were deeply burnt by the sun. 50. Sophia, I'm not going to be talked to like this. 51. His coming had not been looked for. 52. He was given up to his dream.

Ex. 2. Offer possible passive transforms for the Ukrainian non-passive constructions and translate the sentences into Ukrainian.

1. Нездоланні фінансові проблеми звичайно виникають на шляху його коханих.
2. Більшість суспільствознавців відкидають суперечливі положення Ардрі про вроджений характер агресивності гомо сапієнс.
3. Римо-католицька церква санкціонує їх страту.
4. Українські компанії здійснюють близько 90 відсотків вантажоперевезень автомобільним транспортом.
5. Чиї інтереси стоять за його останнім призначенням?
6. Не дивно, що півгодинна зустріч проходила за закритими дверми.
7. Результати слідства розчарували шанувальників детективного жанру.
8. Парламентські вибори в Україні вперше пройдуть за змішаною виборчою системою.
9. Про те, яке значення мала Лемківщина в галицькому церковному житті, свідчить і той факт, що митрополитом був лемко Сильвестр Сембратович.
10. Злиденність та нужда створюють передумови виникнення тоталітарних режимів.
11. Його обвинувачами рухає почуття образи.
12. Таку тактику застосовує більшість партій.
13. Ці кандидатури затверджує Рада Міністрів.
14. Шведська королівська академія наук визначає лауреатів премії з фізики, хімії та економіки.
15. Державна асамблея здійснює також призначення всіх суддів.
16. Нас надихають чудові досягнення, здійснені ним протягом життя.
17. Великі помилки рідко прощавають.