

### Activity Type

Interactive reading and writing exercises

### Language Focus

Past simple active and passive forms

### Aim

To practice past simple active and passive forms.

### Preparation

Send each student a copy of the interactive worksheet.

### Level

Intermediate (B1)

### Time

40 minutes

### Overview

Here is an engaging set of reading and writing interactive exercises based on the news to help students practice past simple active and passive forms. Students begin by rewriting past simple active sentences in the passive. After that, students read a news story and identify past simple passive sentences from the story, which they then change to their active form. Students then complete a set of news reports in the past simple passive.

This worksheet contains a highlighting exercise. To be able to highlight text, please view the PDF worksheet in Adobe Reader.

### Answer key

Exercise A - Answer Key

2. Four goals were scored by both teams.
3. The story was written by a reporter.
4. Japan was hit by an earthquake.

Exercise E - Answer Key

News Report 1

The diamond that **was found** in Bangkok last week **was sold** to a businessman from Dubai. A huge sum of money **was paid** to the man who found the diamond. The sewers of Bangkok **were overrun** with prospectors looking to change their fortunes.

News Report 2

In the Manchester United versus Barcelona match last night, four goals **were scored** by both teams. Rooney **was sent** off for kicking another player. However, most people who watched the match said that a better game **was played** by Manchester United.

News Report 3

Japan **was hit** by a 9.1 earthquake yesterday and a large tsunami **was generated**. Ten cities **were affected** and communications **were disrupted**. Fifty thousand residents **were evacuated** within four hours of being alerted, but five evacuation centers **were destroyed**. The roads **were ruined** making evacuation difficult.