

# 26 The passive in the future

English uses the passive voice in the future to stress the effect of an action that will happen in the future, rather than the cause of that action.

See also:

Future with "will" 18 Future perfect 21  
Infinitives and participles 51

## 26.1 THE FUTURE SIMPLE PASSIVE

The future simple passive is usually formed with "will" rather than "going to."



FUTURE SIMPLE

Hopefully, the police **will catch** the thief very soon.

FUTURE SIMPLE PASSIVE

Hopefully, the thief **will be caught** very soon.

It is not known or important who will catch the thief.

## FURTHER EXAMPLES

Don't worry, the house **will be finished** very soon.



An email **will be sent** to you all next week with more details.



Sorry, but the power **will be turned off** between 2pm and 5pm.



## HOW TO FORM

SUBJECT

The thief

The thing that receives the action.

"WILL BE"

will be

"Will be" doesn't change with any subject.

PAST PARTICIPLE

caught

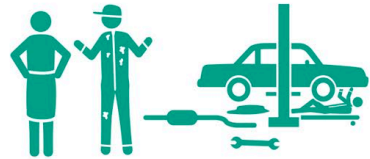
The main verb is a past participle.

REST OF SENTENCE

very soon.

## 26.2 THE FUTURE PERFECT PASSIVE

The future perfect passive is used to talk about events that will be finished at some point in the future.



FUTURE PERFECT

The mechanic **will have fixed** the car by 5pm.

FUTURE PERFECT PASSIVE

The car **will have been fixed** by 5pm.

### FURTHER EXAMPLES

We think every ticket **will have been bought** before the end of the day.



Hurry up or all the good seats **will have been taken** already.



You should call early, otherwise all the tables **will have been booked**.



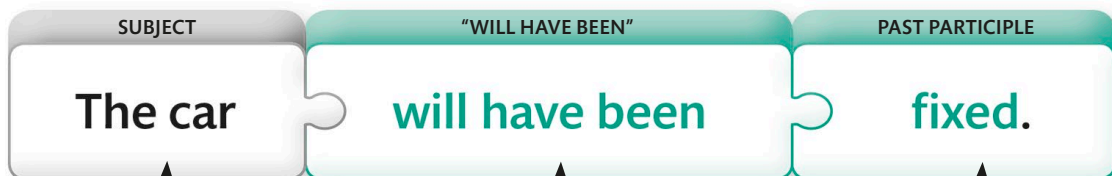
Come back tomorrow. The park **will have been cleaned** by then.



**Will** those letters **have been sent** out before lunchtime tomorrow?



### HOW TO FORM



The thing that receives the action.

"Will have been" stays the same with any subject.

The main verb is a past participle.