

C. Is there any difference in meaning between the pairs of sentences in 1–4? In which contexts might you see or hear sentences like these? Why is the agent necessary in 3b but not in the other passive sentences?

- 1 a They'll make a statement in Parliament tomorrow.  
b A statement will be made in Parliament tomorrow.
- 2 a Someone murdered a man outside his house in Newgate last night.  
b A man was murdered outside his house in Newgate last night.
- 3 a An expert in the field of information technology will give a talk.  
b A talk will be given by an expert in the field of information technology.
- 4 a We poured the liquid into a test tube and then heated it.  
b The liquid was poured into a test tube and heated.

D Complete the text using the correct form and tense of the verbs in brackets.

The hills around Rome were free from malaria but it (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (be) endemic in other areas. Slave labour (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (use) to farm the areas of land which (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (affect). The disease (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (give) its name from the Latin for 'bad air', which (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (wrongly/think) to be the cause of malaria until 1880. Italian scientists (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (now/show) that *falciparum* malaria, the particularly deadly strain which (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (find) by Dr Sallares, (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (arrive) in Rome from Africa via Sardinia. Historians (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (also/find) written records of pestilence spreading through the country and causing 'sweats and chills' – symptoms typical of malaria. Archaeologist Professor David Soren from the University of Arizona said that the discovery was 'really exciting'. He added: 'The idea that this deadly type of malaria really existed in imperial Rome (10) \_\_\_\_\_ (never/prove) before.'

E Use the prompts in 1–5 to complete the responses using a passive verb form.

- 1 A Have they finished preparing the room for the meeting?  
B No, someone told me it \_\_\_\_\_ right now.
- 2 A Did you get the birthday card I sent you?  
B No, I think it \_\_\_\_\_ to the wrong address.
- 3 A What's wrong?  
B I think I \_\_\_\_\_ by a mosquito!
- 4 A I can hear footsteps behind us!  
B Do you think we \_\_\_\_\_?
- 5 A What are the police doing in the house at the end of the street?  
B They're looking for a man who rented a room there. He disappeared last week, and he \_\_\_\_\_ since.

F There are some verbs which can be expressed using the related noun, e.g. *decide* can be expressed as *make a decision*. Rewrite these sentences using a related noun and an appropriate verb.

- 1 They have not decided whether to adopt the new project.  
No \_\_\_\_\_ on whether to adopt the new project.
- 2 The meteorological office has warned of the possibility of severe weather.  
A severe weather \_\_\_\_\_ by the meteorological office.
- 3 They haven't agreed on a site for the new archaeological museum.  
No \_\_\_\_\_ for the new archaeological museum.
- 4 A newspaper has offered £4,000 for exclusive access to the star's home.  
An \_\_\_\_\_ for exclusive access to the star's home.
- 5 The committee did not advise the government on economic matters.  
No \_\_\_\_\_ to the government on economic matters.