

Passive Form of *Modal Verbs*

Modal Verb-Tense Formation in Passive Voice

Present Formula

Modal + be + past participle

Example:

Revision for spelling can easily be done on a computer.

Problems with reservations should be reported to the restaurant manager.

Past Formula

Modal + have been + past participle

Example:

It is possible that the train could have been delayed.

I think she should have been elected chair of the committee.

Passive Voice of *Conditional Verb Phrases*

Conditional Verb-Phrase Formation in the Passive Voice

***Note:** Use the passive of the appropriate verb tense or modal verb phrase.

Factual conditional:

If Ben makes a mistake, he is corrected by his friend.

Hypothetical conditional (present or future)

If the computer software were shipped tonight, it would arrive tomorrow. (was becomes were in the *if* clause)

Hypothetical conditional (past)

If the dam had not been constructed, we would have had a flood last spring.

Passive of *Infinitives and Gerunds*

INFINITIVES in the Passive Voice

Present Infinitive Formula:

To + be + past participle

Example:

She arranged for the make-up test to be given Monday.

Perfect Infinitive Formula:

To + have been + past participle

Example:

The results were supposed to have been sent yesterday.

GERUNDS in the Passive Voice

Formula:

Being + past participle

Examples:

He did not like being called Jim instead of James.

Being awakened in the middle of the night by a telephone call upset George.

After being told to go from one office to another, Phil finally found where to turn in his application.