

Passive Voice: State Passives

FORM

be + past participle of state verb

USE

State passives describe states or conditions. **State passives** use the same form as passives with adjective participles but their meanings are different. Adjective participles are used for *temporary* emotional or physical states. Adjective participles can usually be modified by “very” but **state passives** cannot. **State passives** are used to describe non-temporary states such as: location, composition, method, purpose, connection, name or definition. **State passives** often appear in the simple present tense because they refer to unchanging states. They are often followed by prepositions like *in, with, by, for* etc.

EXAMPLES

Salvador Dali is known for his unusual paintings.

My sweater is made of wool.

Diamonds are found in some parts of northern Canada.

Below are some verbs commonly used as STATE PASSIVES. Complete the sentences below with the PAST PARTICIPLE of one of the verbs and the correct form of the verb “to be”.

locate find made of use connect know as call filled divide

1. Polar bears _____ in Canada’s north.
2. These boots _____ for hiking and camping.
3. This cake is really bad for my diet! It _____ with sugar and oil.
4. Eskimos _____ Inuits.
5. Two-piece ladies swimsuits _____ bikinis.
6. The post office _____ on Queen Street across from the bank.
7. A lot of vegetarian food _____ soy products.
8. The nerves in your body _____ to your central nervous system.
9. Canada _____ into ten provinces and three territories.