

Learn English: Collocations and Passive Voice Forms

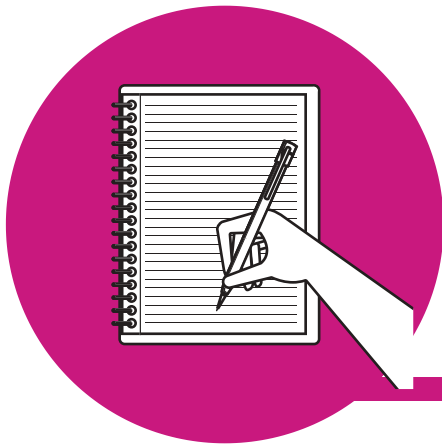
Student Writing Tips

The Pre-Writing Stages of Essay Writing

Writing an essay could be difficult if you have no idea where to start. Use these tips to help you **plan your essay**:

- **Brainstorming:** Write down as many ideas on a topic as possible. This will allow you to see if you have enough ideas or if you should pick a different topic. If you feel like you cannot think of any more ideas, use prompts like 'who,' 'what,' 'where,' 'when,' 'why,' and 'how' to come up with even more ideas.
- **Freewriting:** Use this technique to write down as many ideas on a topic as possible within a set time limit. There is no need to worry about correct grammar, spelling, or sentence structure during this part of the process.
- **Mind Maps:** This is a great visual tool to help you write down ideas. There are many diagrams you could use to put your ideas in a mind map, the most common way being webbing. Start in the middle of a sheet of paper, encircling the name of the topic. Use lines connected to the topic name and write down words and phrases related to the topic.
- **Drawing/Doodling:** Drawing a quick sketch and writing down words connected to the pictures could spark creativity and help you come up with more innovative writing ideas.
- **Outlining:** This is a great way to summarize your essay in a concise manner and ensure that you include all the necessary features of an essay in your writing. Break up the outline into three parts: Introduction, Body, and Conclusion, and list your ideas underneath each heading.

VERY IMPORTANT! Before you start writing, make sure you understand the topic and know what the exact outcome needs to be.



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Student Writing Practice

What is an English collocation that you know? Where do you think this term came from? To help you write this essay, use some of the preparation tips from the previous page. These include brainstorming, freewriting, mind maps, drawing, and outlining.

Remember the following when writing your essay:

- Your essay should be at least **three paragraphs** long and include an introduction, a body, and a conclusion.
- You may choose to write a persuasive, argumentative, expository, narrative, or a descriptive essay.
- Use what you have learned in the course about **phrasal verbs**, **passive voice**, and using the **passive voice in continuous and future tenses**.

For a sample essay on a collocation, visit:
<https://www.rd.com/article/break-a-leg/>

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