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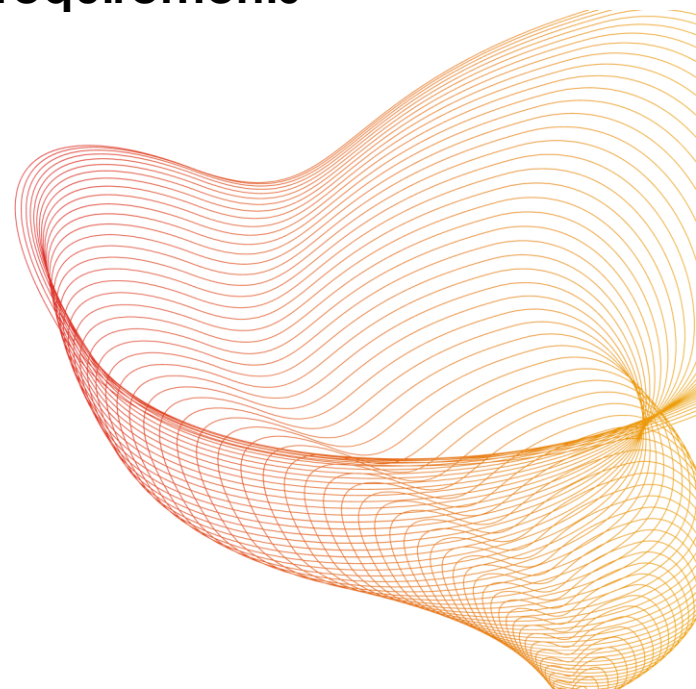
## Module 5

- **UNIT 1 - Passive Voice**
- **UNIT 2 - Reading Comprehension**
- **UNIT 3 - Listening Comprehension**
  - **UNIT 4 - Use of English**



# Introduction

**Architects furious over new BCA bureaucratic requirements**



# ▶ Architects in Malta Protest Against Unilateral BCA

## Measures

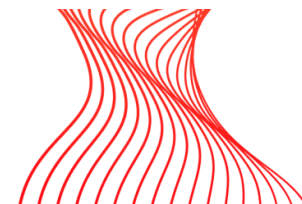
The architectural community in Malta is **up in arms** over new bureaucratic measures that **have been introduced** by the Building and Construction Authority (BCA), **prompting** the Chamber of Architects to instruct its members to boycott the measures. A directive that **was issued** by the Chamber of Architects this week condemns the BCA's unilateral introduction of two new forms without consulting the chamber, in clear violation of previous promises that **have been made** by the government.



# ▶ Architects in Malta Protest Against Unilateral BCA Measures

These forms **mandate** architects and contractors to notify the BCA of third-**party** properties affected by development or excavation work and to declare insurance coverage for ongoing works.

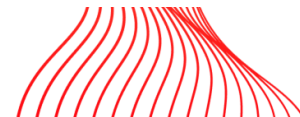
Pizzuto **lambasted** the forms as “an **inept knee-jerk reaction** to the (Sofia) public inquiry,” **arguing** that they do not enhance safety practices but only add unnecessary bureaucracy.



# ▶ Architects in Malta Protest Against Unilateral BCA Measures

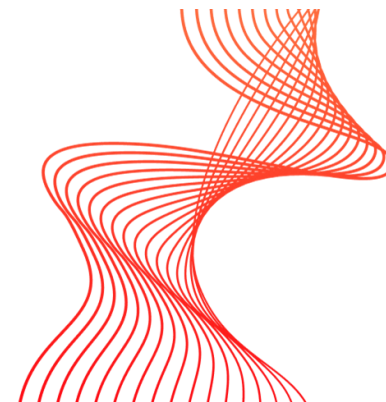
He **advocated** for mandating insurance coverage for all contractors and **streamlining** the process **by requiring** a single insurance policy covering all their work.

**Former** KTP president Christopher Mintoff echoed Pizzuto's **sentiments** on social media, denouncing the increase in bureaucracy as a distraction from **genuine** site safety and built quality.



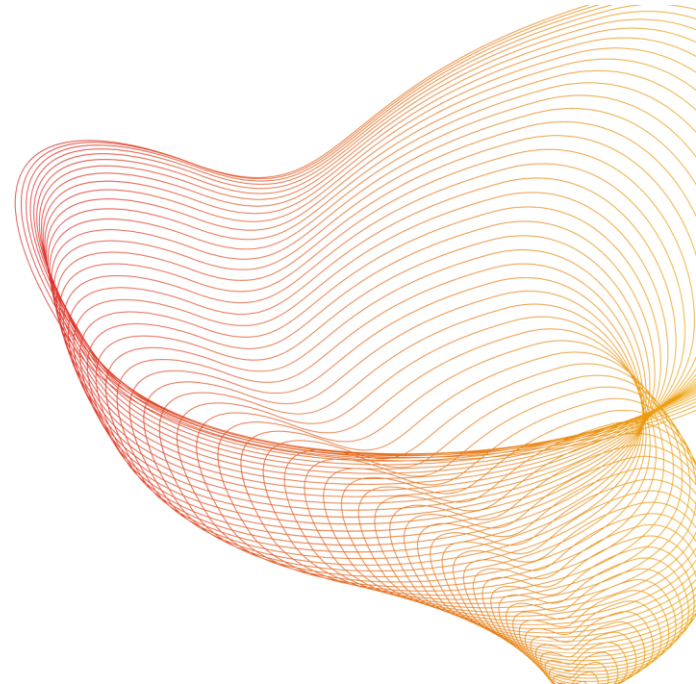
# ▶ Architects in Malta Protest Against Unilateral BCA Measures

The chamber reiterated that the BCA's imposition of the new forms without consultation **was unlawful**, directing its members to **refrain** from **filing** them. It urged members to **await** further communication from the council.





# Unit 1 – Passive Voice





# The Passive Voice: The Basics

describes a verb whose subject does not perform the action of the verb, but receives it

## Example 1

subject

verb in the passive voice

the "actor"

**The bridge** **was destroyed** **by engineers.**

The **subject** did not do the action of the **verb**.  
(The action of the verb was done to the subject.)

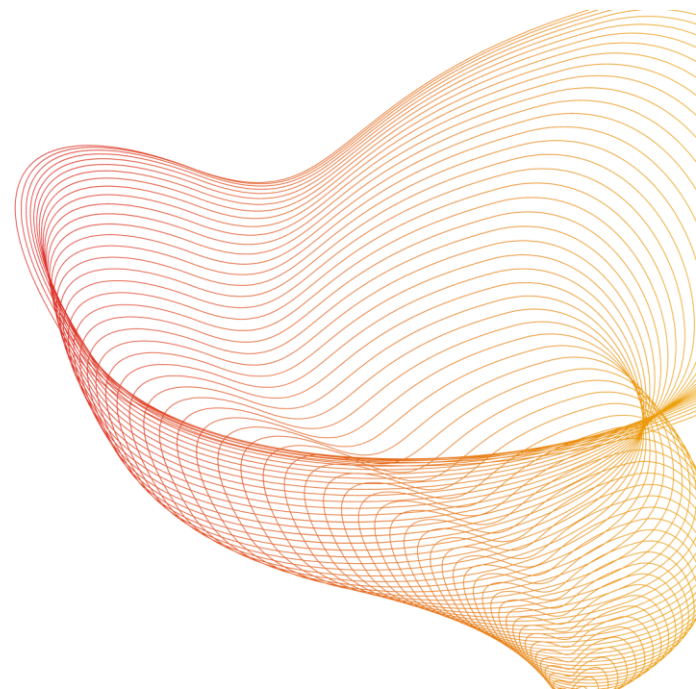
## Example 2

subject

verb in the passive voice

**The cows** **will be milked** **after tea.**

The **subject** will not do the action of the **verb**.  
(The action of the verb will be done to the subject.)

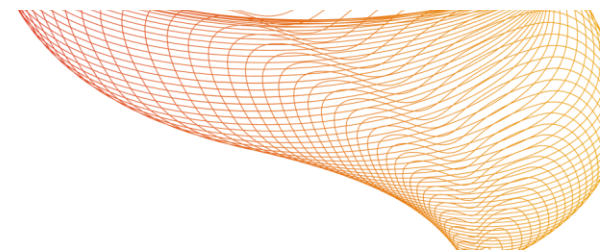


## **Passive voice vs. active voice**

Think about a passive person. They just sit there and things happen to them. A gift is given to them. A show is watched by them. They do not act; life acts upon them.

Now think of an active person. They do things! They give gifts. They write books. They are the subject and the hero of their own story.

That's the difference between active and passive voice writing in a **nutshell**.



## ▶ The passive voice avoids responsibility

Apply it to your clients.

“A design flaw **was identified** during the construction process,” your statement says after a client complains about issues with the architectural plans.

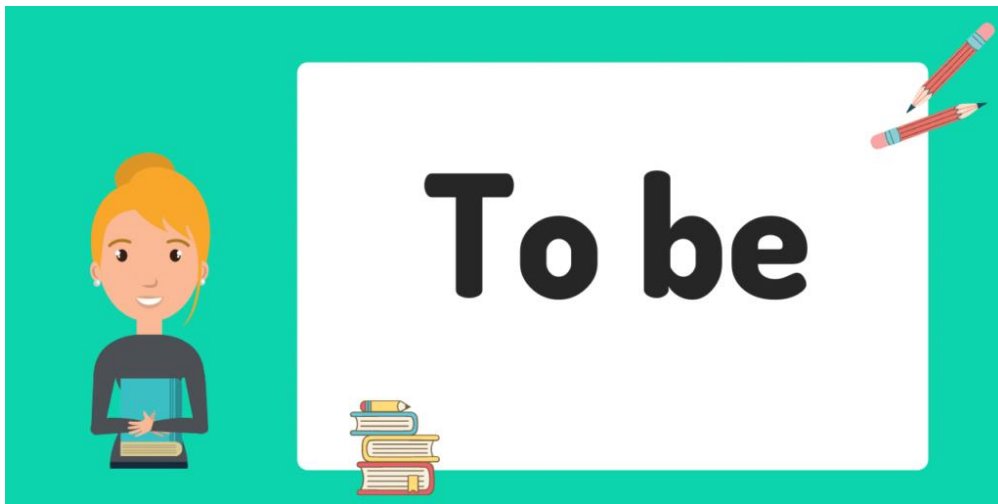
Or it could read instead: “**We made a mistake**. Our team overlooked a critical aspect of the design. We’re instituting new quality control measures to ensure this doesn’t happen again.”

One phrasing takes responsibility. The other **skirts it**.





## The auxiliary BE



The most important thing you have to remember, when it comes to turning an **Active Voice into a Passive** one, is to **keep the tense and form of the original sentence**; the auxiliary of the Passive Voice is **BE** and it must be given the tense and form of the original Active sentence.

## The auxiliary BE

- **Present Perfect Example**

Active: Nobody **has designed** the new public square yet.

Passive: The new public square **hasn't been designed** yet.

- **Future Interrogative Example**

Active: **Will** the engineers **complete** the blueprint by next week?

Passive: **Will** the blueprint **be completed** by next week (by the engineers)?



## **Passive Voice: Verb + adverbs or prepositions**

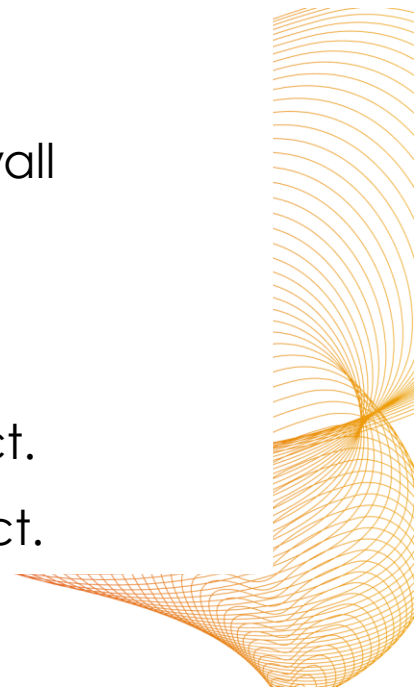
In the Passive Voice, the **adverb** or **preposition** associated with certain **verbs** must be kept intact. A sentence missing this element is incorrect!

1. **Active:** A construction worker **knocked down** the old wall yesterday.

**Passive:** The old wall was **knocked down** yesterday.

2. **Active:** They **called in** an architect to review the project.

**Passive:** An architect was **called in** to review the project.



## **Passive Voice: Verbs Built with an Infinitive Clause**

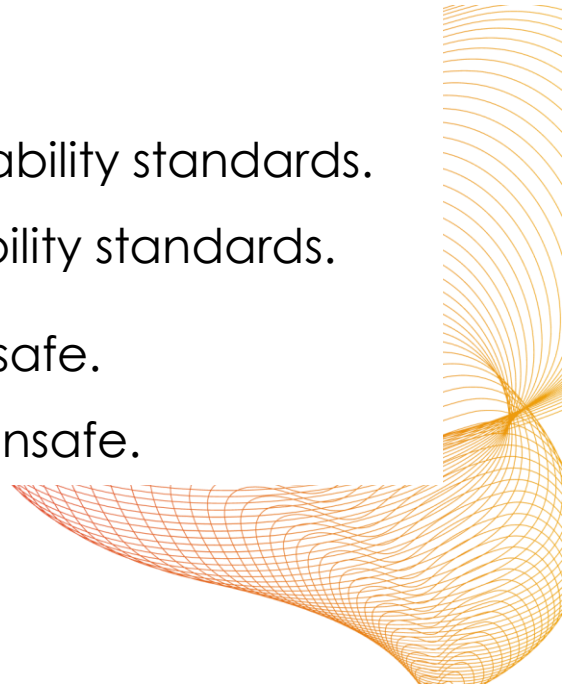
In the Passive Voice, verbs like **to believe**, **to consider**, **to say**, **to think**, and **to suppose** are followed by an **infinitive clause**.

1. **Active:** People believe the design meets sustainability standards.

**Passive:** The design **is believed to meet** sustainability standards.

2. **Active:** They said the building was structurally unsafe.

**Passive:** The building **was said to be** structurally unsafe.

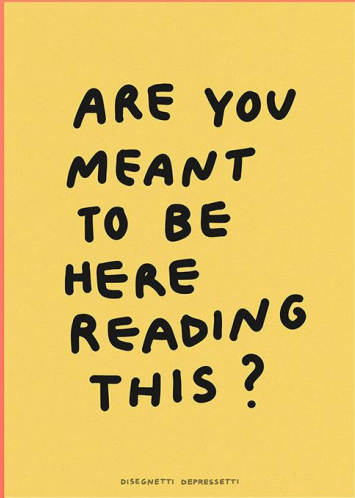


## ▶ Passive Voice: Passive with "To Make Somebody Do Something"

In the Passive Voice, **to make somebody do something** changes to **to be made TO do something**.

1. **Active:** The contractor made the workers finish the project ahead of schedule.

**Passive:** The workers **were made TO finish** the project ahead of schedule.

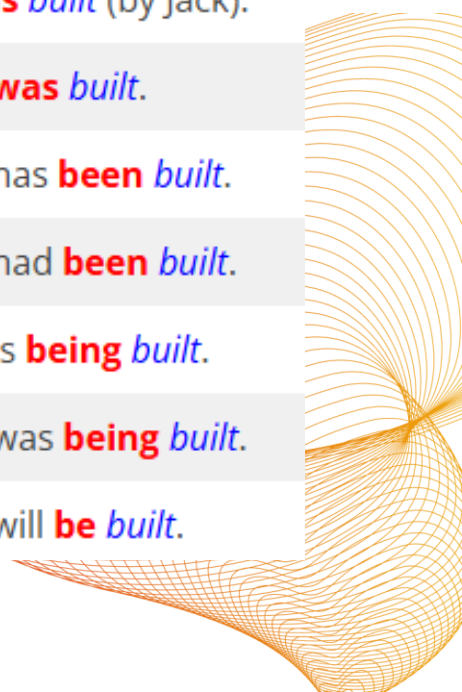


ARE YOU  
MEANT  
TO BE  
HERE  
READING  
THIS ?

DISEGNETTI DEPRESSETTI


## To sum up

	active voice	passive voice
simple present	Jack builds a house.	A house <b>is built</b> (by Jack).
simple past	Jack built a house.	A house <b>was built</b> .
present perfect	Jack has built a house.	A house has <b>been built</b> .
past perfect	Jack had built a house.	A house had <b>been built</b> .
present continuous	Jack is building a house.	A house is <b>being built</b> .
past continuous	Jack was building a house.	A house was <b>being built</b> .
future simple	Jack will build a house.	A house will <b>be built</b> .



 **Complete the article with the correct passive or active form of the verbs in brackets**

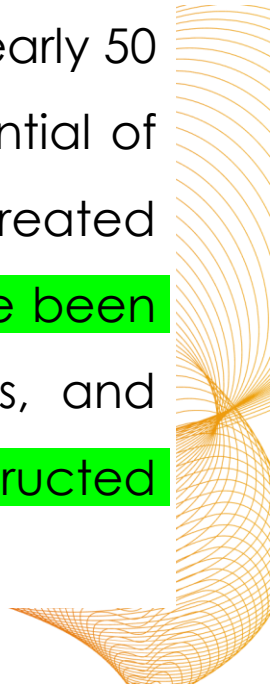
Architects 1..... (design) the first steel-framed skyscraper in the USA in 1885, marking a revolutionary change in architecture. Nearly 50 years earlier, builders 2..... (demonstrate) the potential of glass-and-iron structures in London with the Crystal Palace, created for the Great Exhibition. Since then, enormous resources 3..... (invest) in developing innovative building materials, and thousands of modern skyscrapers 4..... (construct) worldwide.





## Complete the article with the correct passive or active form of the verbs in brackets

Architects 1 **designed** (design) the first steel-framed skyscraper in the USA in 1885, marking a revolutionary change in architecture. Nearly 50 years earlier, builders 2 **demonstrated** (demonstrate) the potential of glass-and-iron structures in London with the Crystal Palace, created for the Great Exhibition. Since then, enormous resources 3 **have been invested** (invest) in developing innovative building materials, and thousands of modern skyscrapers 4 **have been constructed** (construct) worldwide.





Green building techniques 5..... (gain) popularity in the 1990s, and today energy-efficient designs 6..... (use) in projects around the globe. The US Green Building Council 7..... (introduce) the first LEED certification system in 2000. Today, architects and engineers 8..... (apply) sustainable building methods to reduce environmental impact. Architectural technology is evolving rapidly, and researchers 9..... (develop) new materials and techniques almost daily. Many experts believe that traditional construction methods 10..... (replace) by 3D printing and modular building systems in the near future.





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## ▶ Passive Voice vs Reported Speech

Reported Speech is used to discuss what a colleague, client, or official mentioned in a previous meeting or document.

**Example:** Architect: "We submitted the plans last Friday."

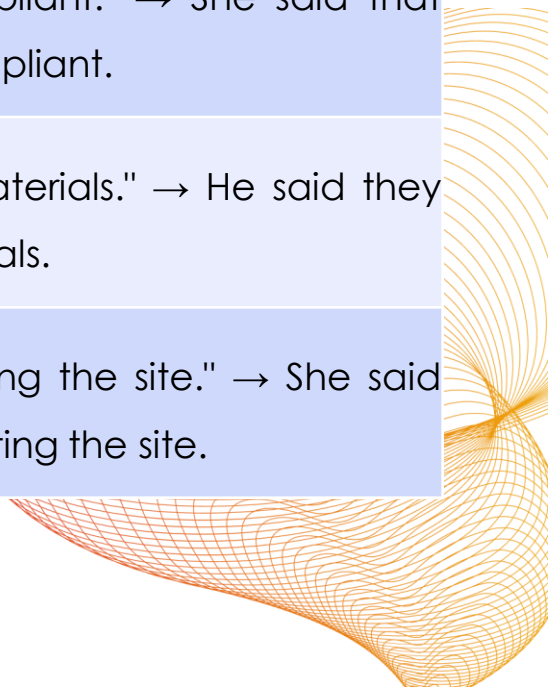
Contractor: "The architect said that they had submitted the plans the previous Friday."

When reporting speech, the verb in the sentence may **shift to a past tense**.



# ▶ Passive Voice vs Reported Speech

Direct Speech	Reported Speech
am / is / are → was / were	"The building is compliant." → She said that the building was compliant.
present simple → past simple	"We approve the materials." → He said they approved the materials.
present continuous → past continuous	"The team is inspecting the site." → She said the team was inspecting the site.



# Passive Voice vs Reported Speech

<b>will → would</b>	"We'll finalize the report by Monday." → They said they would finalize the report by Monday.
<b>can → could</b>	"I can provide the blueprints." → He said he could provide the blueprints.
<b>past simple → past perfect</b>	"We reviewed the drawings." → She said they had reviewed the drawings.
<b>present perfect → past perfect</b>	"I've spoken to the council." → He said he had spoken to the council.
<b>past continuous → past perfect continuous</b>	"They were presenting their proposal." → She said they had been presenting their proposal.
<b>present perfect continuous → past perfect continuous</b>	"We've been working on the project." → He said they had been working on the project.

## ▶ Passive Voice vs Reported Speech



**REPORT THE QUOTE**

*The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing.*

Walt Disney

The illustration shows a man with glasses, a green jacket, and a striped shirt pointing towards a large white speech bubble. The speech bubble contains a quote by Walt Disney. The background is light blue, and there is a decorative orange wireframe graphic on the right side.

## ▶ Passive Voice vs Reported Speech



# REPORT THE QUOTE

“  
*Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—I took the one less traveled by, And that has made all the difference.*  
”

---

Robert Frost





<https://wordwall.net/resource/3030754/reported-speech-and-passive-voice-quiz>

Quiz

# Reported Speech and Passive voice quiz

Choose the correct sentence in the reported speech: Kate: "I love using the Netflix"

A Kate said she **had love** using the Netflix.

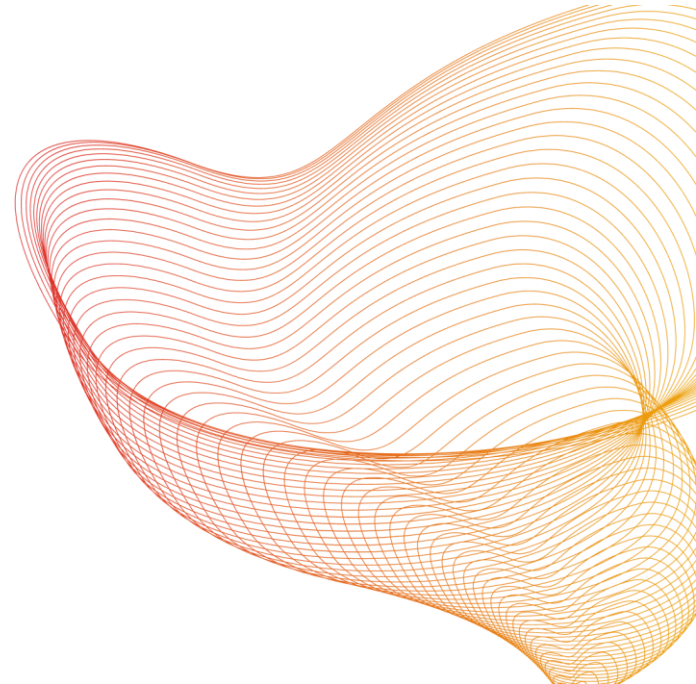
B Kate said she **loved** using the Netflix.

C Kate said she **loves** using the Netflix.

A series of multiple choice questions. Tap the correct answer to proceed.



## Unit 2 – Reading Comprehension





## **Egyptian Museum in Turin to undergo €23m renovation with two-storey 'agora'**



The Egyptian Museum in Turin, the world's earliest museum focused on ancient Egyptian culture, will be renovated next year to celebrate its 200th anniversary. The Dutch studio Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA) will manage the project, which will include changing the courtyard at the center of the Baroque-era Collegio dei Nobili, where the museum is located. A new glass and steel roof will cover the courtyard, adding 975m<sup>2</sup> of space to the museum. The redesigned area will become a central hub with two levels. The total cost of the renovation is estimated at €23 million.



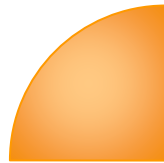
The court, which will be accessible without a ticket, has been dubbed “Piazza Egizia”, with the aim being to make the museum more accessible to the public. It will feature an Egyptian garden complete with shrubbery and trees, as well as a new cafeteria, ticket office and info point, and a multimedia room where wall projections will transport visitors back in time to ancient Egypt.






“OMA's architectural project is based on a new vision of a museum: one that is more articulated and multiform, a place of research and inclusivity,” said Evelina Christillin and Christian Greco, the museum's president and director respectively, in a joint statement. “The idea of covering the courtyard stems from the desire to create a new agora that will be returned to the collectivity.”

Of the €23m budget, €5m has been provided by Italy's culture ministry, with the rest coming from the museum's founding partners. Funding has also been provided by half a dozen private sponsors including the Intesa Sanpaolo bank as coffee manufacturer Lavazza, a museum spokesperson told *The Art Newspaper*.





**Choose the best option to complete the following sentences.**

1. The Egyptian Museum in Turin is the world's **furthest/eldest/oldest/widest** museum.
  2. The project has been **overlooked/oversean/overseen/overshow** by Dutch Studio Office
  3. The court will become a **nerve center/nervous center/new center/heart center**.
  4. The court has been **subtitled/doubted/surnamed/nicknamed** *Piazza Egizia*.
  5. The idea of covering the courtyard **streams/switches/births/springs** from the desire to create a new agora.
  6. A **spox/spock/speck/speech** said that half a dozen of private sponsors has provided funds.
- 

**Choose the best option to complete the following sentences.**

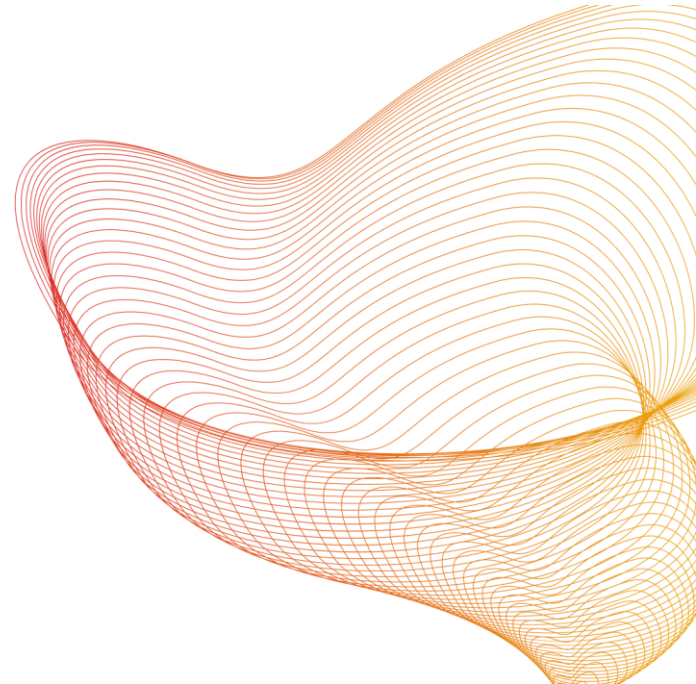
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## Unit 3 – Listening Comprehension



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qDg\\_3eqssig](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qDg_3eqssig)



## Inside Nvidia HQ: What a \$2T Company's Office Looks Like | WSJ Open Office

Term	Sentence	Definition
<b>Sought after</b>	"One of the most sought after places to work..."	Desirable and in high demand.
<b>To fuel the work</b>	"...how does NVIDIA's space fuel the work, powering the AI revolution?"	To provide the necessary energy, resources, or inspiration to support or enhance something.
<b>Chased down</b>	"I took a tour and chased down a robot to find out."	To pursue or follow something in order to catch it or discover more about it.
<b>Corrugated structure</b>	"From windows to walkways to this corrugated structure."	A type of construction material or design featuring a wavy or ridged pattern for strength and durability.

## Inside Nvidia HQ: What a \$2T Company's Office Looks Like | WSJ Open Office

Term	Sentence	Definition
<b>Spread it open across</b>	"We took that heart and spread it open across the surface of that mountain."	To expand or unfold something over a large area.
<b>Inwardly</b>	"Endeavor feels inwardly focused..."	Directed or focused toward the inside, in a more internal or introspective way.
<b>Whereas</b>	"...whereas Voyager is wide open..."	Used to contrast two different situations or facts.
<b>To foster</b>	"NVIDIA's goals for the project to foster collaboration..."	To encourage or promote the development or growth of something.

## Inside Nvidia HQ: What a \$2T Company's Office Looks Like | WSJ Open Office

Term	Sentence	Definition
<b>Roughly</b>	"There are workspaces for roughly 5,000 Nvidians total."	Approximately, not exactly.
<b>Faceted</b>	"The whole thing is faceted."	Having multiple flat surfaces or sides, typically at an angle.
<b>Running into</b>	"...it would be tough to avoid running into other Nvidians here..."	To encounter or meet unexpectedly.
<b>Blazing trails up the mountain</b>	"Some blazing trails up the mountain."	Creating new paths or ways, typically involving hard work or innovation.

## Inside Nvidia HQ: What a \$2T Company's Office Looks Like | WSJ Open Office

Term	Sentence	Definition
<b>Relic</b>	"...the first thing you see is a huge plant wall. It becomes a relic in some ways..."	An object or thing from the past, often considered outdated or no longer relevant.
<b>Carry out</b>	"And these buildings carry out the vision of NVIDIA..."	To execute or implement something, such as a plan or task.
<b>Put their technology up</b>	"...if they put their technology up."	To display or showcase something, often in a prominent way.
<b>It has room to grow</b>	"Nvidia has room to grow."	There is potential for further expansion or development.

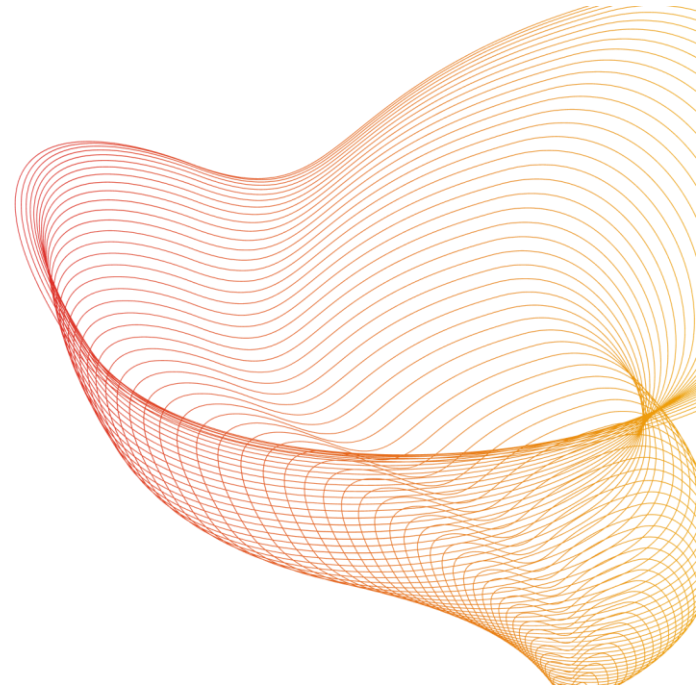


**Watch the video and say whether the following statements are True or False.**

1. The two buildings at NVIDIA's campus are named Endeavor and Explorer. **T/F**
2. The triangle motif in the design is a reference to 3D graphics and how they were originally based on drawing triangles. **T/F**
3. The "heart" space in Endeavor contains the company's most private areas, like offices and labs. **T/F**
4. NVIDIA decided to create a fully open office layout to encourage collaboration among its employees. **T/F**
5. The design of the building includes 311 triangular skylights to optimize natural light. **T/F**
6. AI is expected to play no role in the design of future NVIDIA buildings. **T/F**



# Unit 4 – Use of English





# ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES AGREEMENT

The language used in **legal documents** such as architectural service agreements is characterized by its **formal, precise,** and often **complex structure**. Key aspects of this language include the use of specific terms, prepositions, and modal verbs to define responsibilities, conditions, and timelines, ensuring clarity and reducing ambiguity in contractual obligations.




## Architecture Design Contract

This Architecture Design Contract (this "Agreement") is entered into as of [ENTER EFFECTIVE DATE] (the "Effective Date") by and between: [ENTER ARCHITECT NAME] (hereinafter "Architect"), located at [ENTER ADDRESS] and [ENTER CLIENT NAME] (hereinafter "Client"), located at [ENTER CLIENT ADDRESS] (collectively referred to herein as the "Parties," and individually as a "Party").

WHEREAS, Client intends to build a [ENTER DESCRIPTION] to be located at [ENTER ADDRESS], hereinafter called the "Project"; and

WHEREAS, Client desires to utilize the services of Architect in rendering the architectural design of the Project and Architect agrees to provide such services in accordance with the terms contained herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants, terms and conditions set out herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Parties hereto agree as follows:





# A draft document - Extracts

This Agreement **is entered into on** this [Date], **by and between** [Client's Name] (**hereinafter referred to as** "Client") and [Architect's Name] (hereinafter referred to as "Architect").\*

## 1. Scope of Work

The following services **shall be provided** by the Architect for the Client:

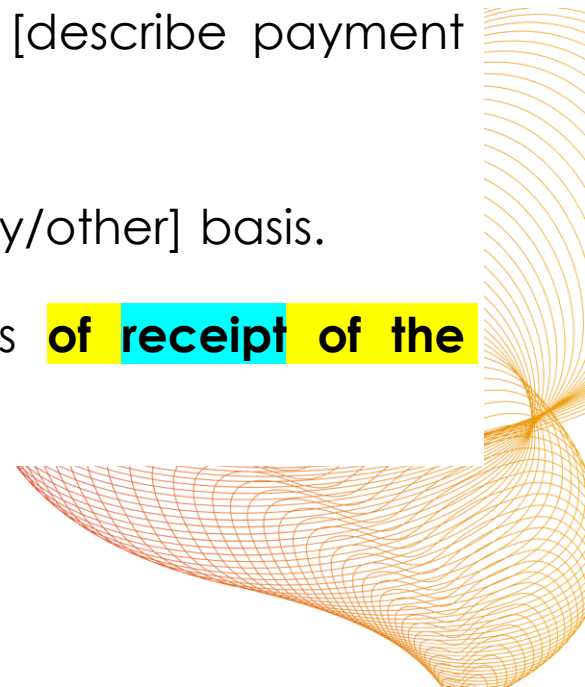
- Plans and designs **will be prepared** according to the specifications agreed **upon**.
- All relevant building codes and regulations will be adhered to.
- Site visits will be conducted as necessary **to ensure compliance with** the design.
- Any changes or revisions to the design will be incorporated **upon mutual agreement**.



## A draft document - Extracts

### 3. Compensation and Payment

- Payment for services **will be made as follows**: [describe payment terms].
- Invoices **will be submitted** on a [monthly/bi-weekly/other] basis.
- Payments will be made **within** [number] days **of receipt of the invoice**.



# A draft document - Extracts

## 6. Termination

- The agreement **may be terminated** by **either party** with [insert notice period], provided **written notice** is given.
- **In the event of** termination, payment will be made for the work completed **up to the date of** termination.

## 7. Liability and Insurance

- Professional liability insurance **will be maintained** by the Architect **throughout** the project.

## 8. Dispute Resolution

- Disputes arising **under this Agreement** will be settled through mediation or arbitration, as agreed by both parties.



# A draft document - Extracts

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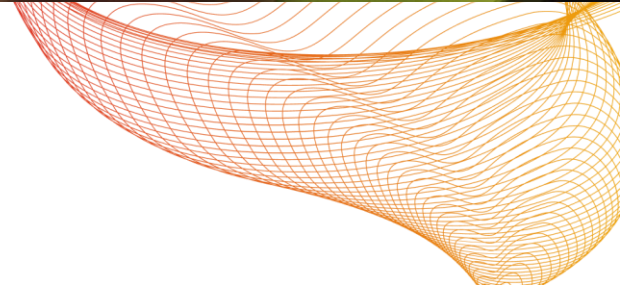
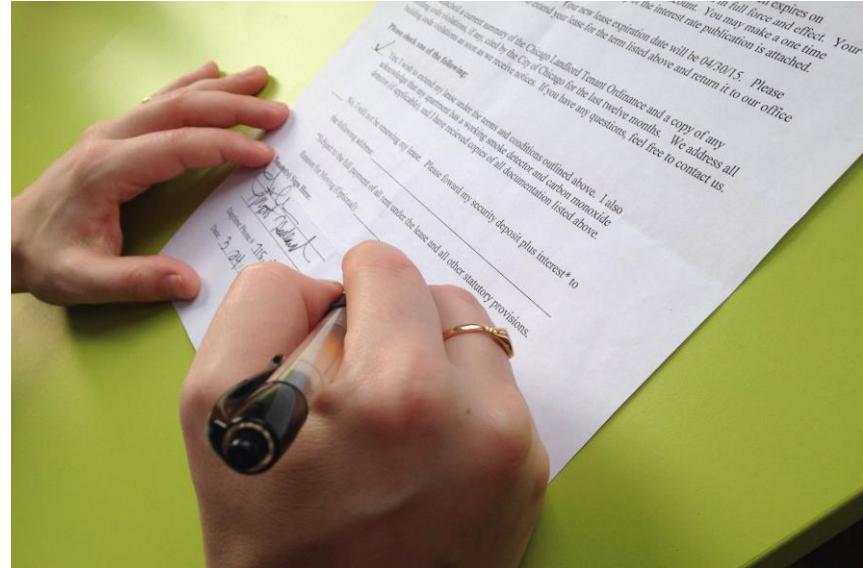
## Use of Modal Verbs

- **Shall**: Indicates a **mandatory obligation** (e.g., "*Plans and designs shall be prepared according to the specifications agreed upon.*"). Architects should note that "shall" imposes a strict duty.
- **Will**: Describes actions to be performed **without necessarily imposing a legal obligation** (e.g., "*The final designs will be delivered by [insert date].*")
- **May**: Indicates **permission or optionality**, giving flexibility to a party (e.g., "*The agreement may be terminated by either party with [insert notice period].*")

## ▶ Third-Person References

Contracts avoid pronouns like **"you"** or **"we"** and use **formal party designations** (e.g., "Client" and "Architect") for clarity and to avoid ambiguity.

For example, "The Architect shall maintain professional liability insurance..." makes it clear who bears responsibility.






**Choose the correct option to complete the following sentences.**

**1. This Architect Agreement is \_\_\_\_\_ this (Date), by and between Mr Jones (Architect), and Ms Dalloway (Owner), shall commence pursuant to the following terms and conditions.**

- a) entered upon                      b) entered on to                      c) entered into on

**2. The Architect is responsible for overseeing the performance of any architecture as well as related tasks, \_\_\_\_\_ Design, Drafting, Programming.**

- a) including but not exclusively for  
b) including but not limited to  
c) including but with the exception of
- 

**Choose the correct option to complete the following sentences.**

**3. The Architect \_\_\_\_\_ the property on a bi-weekly basis to monitor and evaluate the progress of the work completed and ensure all work falls within the contract guidelines.**

a) shall visit

b) may visit

c) will visit

**4. The Architect \_\_\_\_\_ providing the Owner with the necessary documentation for approval either by the Owner or by the state.**

a) will be rispnsable for

b) will be responsible for

c) will be rispnsible of

**Choose the correct option to complete the following sentences.**

**5. Payment for the Architect's services shall be due \_\_\_\_\_ the sale of the property.**

- a) Upon                      b) Before                      c) After

**6. Both \_\_\_\_\_ must provide \_\_\_\_\_ notice in the event of changes to the schedule or budget that may affect the project's progress.**

- a) parties/oral                      b) parties/written                      c) parts/verbal



Thank you.  
Please feel free to ask any questions.