

## PASSIVES WITHOUT AN AGENT

**7. Complete each sentence by the stative passive\* of the verb in brackets.**

1. The epidermis ... over the papillae of the dermis. (mould)
2. Osteoblasts ... from undifferentiated connective tissue cells. (derive)
3. Nerve fibres ... with a layer of myelin. (insulate)
4. The cavity of a tooth ... with pulp. (fill)
5. The patella ... in the tendon of the femur. (embed)
6. Molars ... for grinding food. (adapt)
7. Cellular elements ... in the blood. (isolate)
8. The sympathetic nerves ... throughout the body. (distribute)
9. The pectoralis minor... into the coracoid process of the scapula. (insert)
10. The ribs ... in pairs. (arrange)

\* Stative passives occur commonly in medical writing. They are always in the present tense. If you prefer, you can think of them as the verb *to be* + a past participle used adjectivally (e.g. *Fractures of the acetabulum **are** often associated with other life-threatening injuries.*).

## PASSIVES WITH AN AGENT, EXPRESSED OR UNEXPRESSED

**8. Change the verbs from the active to the passive. When the agent is personal, omit it.**

1. Age, sex and function influence the rate of bone growth.
2. We call the eye socket the orbit.
3. When we add iodine solution to glycogen, we produce a port-wine colour.
4. Mucous membrane lines the intestinal tract.
5. The kidneys remove bilirubin from the blood.
6. Physiologists studied the process of mitosis at the end of the last century.
7. A delicate plexus of nerve fibres accompanies blood vessels.
8. Chemists extract quinine from cinchona.
9. We do not understand the function of the thymus.
10. The quadriceps muscle supports the front of the knee.
11. Lack of oxygen can interrupt conduction in the nerves.
12. Two groups of veins return blood to the heart from the legs.
13. We classify various types of epithelium, mainly according to cell shape.
14. The presence of infection accelerates the flow of lymph.
15. We find sucrose in the sap of many plants.