

Contents

Preface	XI
Introduction	1
PART I: CRITIQUE OF PREVIOUS ANALYSES OF	
THE PASSIVE	3
1.1 Introduction	3
1.2 Five definitions of passive	3
1.2.1 Introduction	3
1.2.2 Passive subject and active object	4
1.2.3 The non-agentive subject	12
1.2.4 "Agensabgewandt"	13
1.2.5 No agent – no passive	14
1.2.6 No patient – no passive	23
1.2.7 The verbal adjective	25
1.2.8 Converse relationships	27
1.3 Fundamental issues	28
1.3.1 The circularity of voice	28
1.3.2 Transitivity and the passive	30
1.3.3 Passivizing and topicalizing	34
1.3.4 The alleged semantic equivalence of actives and passives	43
1.3.5 The Russian passive	47
1.3.6 Odd passives	47
1.4 Passivizability as a lexical property and independent constraints	48
1.5	50
1.5.1 The meaning of <i>be</i>	50
1.5.2 Passive and reflexive	53
1.6 Regrettable flaws	56
1.6.1 Non-passivizable reflexives	56
1.6.2 Passive + agentive adverb	57
1.6.3 The literal/figurative distinction	58
1.7 Transitive, non-passivizable sentences	59
1.7.1 Introduction	59
1.7.2 English	60
German	62
1.7.3 English	72
German	73
1.7.4 Russian	75
1.8 Summary	81

PART II: PASSIVE THE ASPECT	83
2.1 Introduction	83
2.2 Aspect theory	83
2.2.1 The definition of "aspect"	83
2.2.2 The realization of aspect	84
2.2.2.1	84
2.2.2.2 Aspect realized via auxiliaries and participles	84
2.2.2.3 Lexical aspect	84
2.2.2.4 Compositional aspect	85
2.2.3 Aspect compatibility	88
2.2.4 The perfect	88
2.3 A hypothesis concerning the aspectual status of the passive	89
2.3.1 The hypothesis	89
2.3.2 The form of the passive	90
2.3.3 The meaning of the passive	91
2.3.4 The syntactic behaviour of the passive	92
2.3.4.1	92
2.3.4.2 English	93
2.3.4.3 German	95
2.3.4.4 Russian	100
2.3.4.5 Inconsistencies	100
2.3.4.6 Summary of sentences	106
2.3.4.7 Tentative explanation of inconsistencies	107
2.3.4.8 Conclusion	111
2.3.5 Evidence from Russian	113
2.3.5.1 The incompatibility of passive and imperfective	113
2.3.5.2 Negative imperfective passives	114
2.3.5.3 - <i>Hy-</i> -verbs	114
2.3.6 The passive of intransitive verbs	114
2.3.7 Some passive eccentricities explained	115
2.3.7.1 The system of odd passives	115
2.3.7.2 Ingenuity and the passive	118
2.3.7.3 The perfect/future progressive passive	118
2.3.7.4 Passive infinitives	119
2.3.7.5 The perfect passive attributive participle	119
2.3.7.6 The non-passivizability of <i>sein</i> -verbs	120
2.3.7.7 The literal/figurative paradox resolved	121
2.3.8 The statal passive	122
2.3.8.1 The actional-or-statal passive	122
2.3.8.2 Statal passive and lexical aspect	122
2.3.8.3 Perfect with <i>sein</i> and passive with <i>sein</i>	123

2.3.9 "The passive is a perfect" theories	125
2.3.10 Summary and conclusion	126
2.4 The dissolution of syntactic voice	128
2.5 A new look at some old problems	129
PART III: IMPLICATIONS	131
3	131
3.1 Meaning	131
3.2 Form	132
3.3 Theoretical grammars	133
PART IV: A METHOD OF INVESTIGATING GRAMMAR	135
4.1 Introduction	135
4.2 The method	142
4.3 The theory behind the method	145
4.4 Summary	147
Appendix	149
Notes	151
Bibliography	157
Index	