

Model sentences in the passive periphrastic. The gerundive must agree with the subject of the verb. The below cited sentences serve as models for the passive periphrastic construction. Example :

legio conscribenda est	A legion must [ought to / should / has to] be enrolled
legiones conscribendae sunt	Legions must [ought to / should / have to] be enrolled
dixit legionem conscribendam esse	He said a legion ought to be enrolled
rogat cur legiones conscribendae sint	He asks why legions must be enrolled
rogavit qua de causa legiones conscribendae essent	He asked the reason why legions had to be enrolled
haec facienda erant	This had to be [ought to have been] done
negavit haec facienda fuisse	He said that this should not have been done
exercitus mittendus fuit	An army had to be sent
rogavit cur exercitus mittendus fuisset	He asked why it had been necessary to send an army

The passive periphrastic and the dative of agent. The dative of agent is used with the passive periphrastic construction. Normally the personal agent is expressed by the ablative case preceded by the preposition: **a** or **ab**. With the passive periphrastic the personal agent is expressed by the dative case without a preposition. This construction, the use of the dative is referential **id est**; the verb's action is viewed with reference to the agent

The dative of agent in translation often sounds awkward. Therefore, it is recommended a passive construction be written as an active construction. Example :

haec ei facienda sunt	He must do this Literal: This must be done
pons militibus faciendus erat	The soldiers had to build a bridge Literal: A bridge had to be built by the soldiers
finitimi bellicosi nobis vincendi sunt	We must conquer our warlike neighbours Literal: Our warlike neighbours must be conquered by us

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