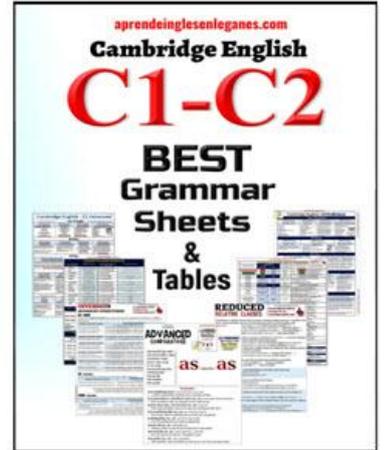




C1-C2

Best Grammar Sheets & Tables

→ [Click to preview](#)



Your key to mastering advanced grammar

Perfect for C1 & C2 Cambridge English exams

The passive is not normally used with verbs in the **present perfect continuous, past perfect continuous, future continuous, or future perfect continuous** tenses. Instead, certain prepositional phrases are used to avoid awkward passive forms.

In progress /underway

- ✗ Preparations for the event *will be being made* as you arrive.
- ✓ Preparations for the event **will be underway** as you arrive.
- ✗ The investigation *will have been being conducted* for three months by July.
- ✓ The investigation **will have been in progress** for three months by July.

Rule of thumb: Use **underway** for projects, events, and activities with momentum. Use **in process** for formal procedures, applications, or paperwork.

In training

- ✗ By next July, she *will have been being trained* as a nurse for three years.
- ✓ By next July, she **will have been in training** as a nurse for three years.

On display

- ✗ An Egyptian art collection *has been being displayed at* the museum since last week.
- ✓ An Egyptian art collection **has been on display at** the museum since last week.

Under + noun (in the process of being ...)

This is a common, elegant way to avoid awkward passive continuous forms.

- ✗ The proposal *had been being discussed* for months before it was approved.
- ✓ The proposal **had been under discussion** for months before it was approved.
- ✗ The sports complex *has been being built* for over a year.
- ✓ The sports complex **has been under construction** for over a year.
- ✗ By the time they came to a decision, two venues *had been being considered* for months.
- ✓ By the time they came to a decision, two venues **had been under consideration** for months.

Most Common Prepositions Used in These Constructions

“On + noun”

It often works for status, activity, or presentation, not all verbs.
on display, on show, on track

“Under + noun”

It emphasizes evaluation, scrutiny, or maintenance.
under review, under investigation, under discussion, under negotiation, under consideration

“In + noun”

It emphasizes ongoing activity or process.
in training, in progress, in preparation, in operation, in development