

## Passive Structures in Singapore English



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*(Derick Brekke)*

## PASSIVE STRUCTURES IN SINGAPORE ENGLISH

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GRIN Verlag Mrz 2011, 2011. sonst. Bücher. Book Condition: Neu. 212x147x1 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Neuware - Seminar paper from the year 2006 in the subject American Studies - Linguistics, grade: 2, University of Freiburg, course: Proseminar I, 12 entries in the bibliography, language: English, abstract: Ho and Platt (1993:1) argue that Singaporean English is a particularly interesting indigenized, or nativized, speech variety because it is so widely used and fills so many functions. I can confirm Ho and Platt's statement, since I was in Singapore in 2004. It was not difficult to notice Singapore English as a speech variety. This sparked my interest in participating in the proseminar 'English in Singapore' and consequently in researching into a certain grammatical phenomenon in Singapore English, namely the passive voice. In this term paper, a short analysis of the two passive structures specific to Colloquial Singapore English (the so-called kena passive and the give passive) will be presented. Further on, the get passive will be examined. We will show that give- and kena-constructions are derived from the languages of Chinese and Malay, respectively. The bigger part of this paper will be to examine the overall frequencies thereof. Which of the two passive constructions will be closer in structure to the standard form A personal analysis will help us to answer this question, always with the hidden desire to finally come up with a reasonable conclusion towards the end of the paper. We will probably have a winner of the competing substrate form and we will hopefully find out which passive construction is the most productive one in Singapore English. Moreover, we want to compare the frequency of the kena-passive with the getpassive's frequency in a corpus-based analysis. Admittedly, the corpus-based study will be relatively...

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