Mbidzi zi-na-perek-a msampha kwa nkhandwe.
'zebras trap to fox'

b Mbidzi zi-na-perek-er-a nkhandwe msampha.
'zebras trap fox'

(22) a Ndi-na-tumiz-a kalata kwa mfumu.
'I sent a letter to the chief.'

b Ndi-na-tumiz-ir-a mfumu kalata.
'I sent the chief a letter.'

(23) a Fisi a-na-dul-a chingwe ndi mpeni.
'The hyena cut the rope with a knife.'

b Fisi a-na-dul-ir-a mpeni chingwe.
'The hyena cut the rope with a knife.'

(24) a Msangalatsi a-ku-yend-a ndi ndodo.
'The entertainer is walking with a stick.'

b Msangalatsi a-ku-yend-er-a ndi ndodo.
'The entertainer is walking with a stick.'

(25) a Mtsikana a-na-phik-ir-a ana nsima.
'The girl cooked cornmeal for the children.'

b Atsikana a-na-vin-ir-a mfumu.
'The girls danced for the chief.'

c Kalulu a-na-gul-ir-a mbidzi nsapato.
'The hare bought shoes for the zebras.'

(26) a  
Amayi  [a-na-pats-a  mwana mtsuko]vp  
woman(1) SUBJ(1)-PAST-give-ASP child(1) waterpot(3)  
'The woman gave the child a waterpot.'

b  
Amayi  [a-na-mu-pats-a  mtsuko]vp (mwana).  
woman(1) SUBJ(1)-PAST-OBJ(1)-give-ASP waterpot(3) child(1)  
'The woman gave him (the child) a waterpot.'

c  
*Amayi  [a-na-u-pats-a  mwana]vp (mtsuko).  
woman(1) SUBJ(1)-PAST-OBJ(3)-give-ASP child(1) waterpot(3)  
'The woman gave it (a waterpot) to the child.'

Background: there are 13 noun classes:

woman, child, class 1
waterpot, class 3

Background: The object agreement marker is like a pronoun. When it appears, the NP it "agrees" with can be postposed to the end of the sentence, prepended to the beginning, or may not be present at all. This is true for Chichewa—not for all languages with applicative suffix, verb agrees with instrumental or benefactive.

(27) a  
Anyani  [a-ku-u-phwany-ir-a  dengu]vp (mwala).  
baboons(2) SUBJ(2)-PRES-OBJ(3)-break-APPL-ASP basket stone(3)  
'The baboons are breaking the basket with it (the stone).'

b  
Amayi  [a-ku-mu-tumb-ir-a  mtsuko]vp (mwana).  
woman(1) SUBJ(1)-PRES-OBJ(1)-mold-APPL-ASP waterpot(3) child(1)  
'The woman is molding him (the child) a waterpot.'
(28) a Mtsikana a-na-phik-a nsima.
girl(1) SUBJ(1)-PAST-cook-ASP cornmeal(9)  
'The girl cooked cornmeal.'
b Nsima i-na-phik-idw-a (ndi mtsikana).
cornmeal(9) SUBJ(9)-PAST-cook-PASS-ASP (by girl)  
'The cornmeal was cooked (by the girl).'</b

Passive of "give" (inherently applicative) 
Only recipient can become subject.

(29) a Ngombe zi-na-pats-a mbuzi nsima.
cows(10) SUBJ(10)-PAST-give-ASP goats(10) cornmeal(9)  
'The cows gave the goats cornmeal.'
b mbuzi zi-na-pats-idw-a nsima (ndi ngombe).
goats(10) SUBJ(10)-PAST-give-PASS-ASP cornmeal(9) (by cows)  
'The goats were given cornmeal (by the cows).'
c *Nsima i-na-pats-idw-a mbuzi (ndi ngombe).
cornmeal(9) SUBJ(9)-PAST-give-PASS-ASP goats(10) (by cows)  
'The cornmeal was given the goats (by the cows).'

Intransitive verb

1. make it transitive by adding applicative
2. make it passive

(30) a Msangalatsi a-ku-yend-a ndi ndodo.
entertainer(1) SUBJ(1)-PRES-walk-ASP with stick(9)  
'The entertainer is walking with a stick.'
b *Ndodo i-ku-yend-edw-a (ndi).
stick(9) SUBJ(9)-PRES-walk-PASS-ASP with  
(for: 'The stick is being walked with.')
c Ndodo i-ku-yend-er-edw-a.
stick(9) SUBJ(9)-PRES-walk-APPL-PASS-ASP  
'The stick is being walked with.'
Passive with applicative: Basically Transitive verb

(a) Kalulu a-na-gul-i-a
hare(10) subj(PAST-buy-applications) zebras(10) shoes(10)

`The hare bought shoes for the zebras.'

(b) Mbizdi zi-na-gul-i-idw-a
zebras(10) subj(PAST-buy-applications) zebras(10) (by hare)

`The zebras were bought shoes (by the hare).' 

(c) *Nsapato zi-na-gul-i-idw-a
shoes(10) subj(PAST-buy-applications) zebras(10) (by hare)

`Shoes were bought for the zebras (by the hare).' 

Derivation of applicative = makes the recipient agent

1. Passive = makes the recipient a sub.

(a) Mbizdi zi-na-perek-a
zebras(10) subj(PAST-hand-applications) trap(3) to fox(9)

`The zebras handed the trap to the fox.'

(b) Mbizdi zi-na-perek-er-a
zebras(10) subj(PAST-hand-applications) fox(9) trap(3)

`The zebras handed the fox the trap.'

(c) Nkhandwe i-na-perek-er-edw-a
fox(9) subj(PAST-hand-applications) trap(3) by zebras

`The fox was handed a trap (by the zebras).' 

(d) *Msampha u-na-perek-er-edw-a
trap(3) subj(PAST-hand-applications) fox(9) by zebras

`The trap was handed to the fox (by the zebras).' 

(e) Msampha u-na-perek-edw-a
kwa nkhandwe (ndi mbizdi).
trap(3) subj(PAST-hand-pass-applications) to fox(9) by zebras

`The trap was handed to the fox (by the zebras).'