

ACTIVE AND PASSIVE VOICE

1 THEORY

Read the theory about the passive voice and then complete the exercises.

	Active Voice	Passive Voice
Example	The dog chases the cat.	The cat is chased by the dog.
Notes	In this sentence, the subject is "the dog" , the object is "the cat" and the action is "chase" .	In the passive voice, we place the object at the beginning of the sentence.
More Examples	Present Simple <i>She cleans the kitchen.</i> <i>He is stealing the car.</i> Past Simple <i>He watched TV last night.</i> <i>I cooked pasta last night.</i> Future Simple <i>I'll drive the car.</i> <i>We'll bring wine.</i> Present Continuous <i>They are opening the gift.</i> <i>She is cleaning the room.</i> Present Perfect <i>I haven't seen her in weeks.</i> <i>I have completed the task.</i>	Present Simple <i>The kitchen is cleaned by her.</i> <i>The car is being stolen by him.</i> Past Simple <i>TV was watched by him last night.</i> <i>Pasta was cooked by me last night.</i> Future Simple <i>The car will be driven by me.</i> <i>Wine will be brought by us.</i> Present Continuous <i>The gift is being opened by them.</i> <i>The room is being cleaned by her</i> Present Perfect <i>She hasn't been seen by me in weeks.</i> <i>The task has been completed by me.</i>



To transform the active voice to the passive voice, the tense needs to be considered.

Present Simple am / is / are + past participle	Past Simple was / were + past participle
Future Simple will + be + past participle	Present Continuous am / is / are + being + past participle
Present Perfect have / has + been + past participle	

2 COMPLETE THE SENTENCES

Task 1: Complete the sentences using the correct tense.

1. A lot of old movies **were broadcast** (broadcast) on the TV last week.
2. If I **were** (be) you I wouldn't go out tonight.
3. When we arrived at the party, we found out that the birthday boy **had already left** (already leave).
4. I reported to the police that my car **had been stolen** (steal) last night.
5. She **has not smoked** (not smoke) for over a month.
6. They usually **allow** (allow) visitors at the hospital.
7. They **have been living** (live) in Australia since 2010.
8. The town **is decorated** (decorate) every year during the Christmas season.

Task 2: Say whether the sentences are in the active or passive voice.



3 ACTIVE OR PASSIVE

Task: Read the sentences below, and say whether they use the active or passive voice.

1. The chef cooked a delicious five-course meal for the guests. **A**
2. The ancient artefact was carefully preserved in the museum's climate-controlled vault. **P**
3. The breathtaking landscapes were captured on camera by a skillful photographer during their expedition. **P**
4. The company revolutionised the industry with the introduction of a new product. **A**
5. The firefighters swiftly extinguished the raging inferno in the building. **A**
6. She designed and created a stunning dress, which she showcased at the fashion show. **A**
7. The heartfelt song was performed by the singer at the grand charity event. **P**
8. The scientist conducted experiments to put the hypothesis to the test. **A**
9. The gardener planted various flowers in the garden. **A**
10. The top-secret documents were accidentally leaked by an employee of the company. **P**
11. The construction crew successfully built a sturdy bridge across the river. **A**
12. He skillfully repaired his broken bicycle in his workshop. **A**
13. The athletes achieved the feat of breaking several records during the track and field competition. **A**
14. The new technology was introduced to the market last week. **P**
15. A captivating novel will be published by the renowned author next month. **P**
16. The championship trophy was proudly lifted by the winning team amidst cheers from the crowd. **P**
17. The luxurious mansion was recently purchased by a wealthy entrepreneur. **P**
18. The important decision was unanimously approved by the board of directors during their meeting. **P**
19. The teacher's engaging history lesson sparked inspiration among her students. **A**
20. The beautiful mural was painted on the city wall by a talented local artist. **P**



4 FROM ACTIVE TO PASSIVE VOICE

Task: Rewrite the sentences in the passive voice.

1. Someone will attend to you later.
You will be attended to later.
2. I don't remember Anna giving me the keys.
I don't remember being given the keys by Anna.
3. The company employs 500 people.
500 people are employed by the company.
4. Nobody said anything.
Nothing was said.
5. A phone call woke me up last night.
I was woken up last night by a phone call.
6. My grandfather drove this car 20 years ago.
This car was driven by my grandfather 20 years ago.
7. Someone has stolen my credit card.
My credit card has been stolen.
8. Scientists have tested the vaccine on humans.
The vaccine has been tested on humans.
9. The police caught the thief.
The thief was caught by the police.
10. You cannot trust politicians.
Politicians can't be trusted.



5 FROM PASSIVE TO ACTIVE VOICE

Task: Rewrite the sentences in the active voice.

- a. The cake was baked by my grandmother.
My grandmother baked the cake.
- b. The novel was written by a famous author.
A famous author wrote the novel.
- c. The car was repaired by the mechanic.
The mechanic repaired the car.
- d. The decision was made by the committee.
The committee made the decision.
- e. The project was completed ahead of schedule.
We completed the project ahead of schedule.
- f. The movie was directed by an acclaimed filmmaker.
An acclaimed filmmaker directed the movie.
- g. The house was sold to a young couple.
A young couple bought the house.
- h. The bridge was constructed over the river.
They constructed the bridge over the river.
- i. The presentation was given by the CEO.
The CEO gave the presentation.
- j. The art exhibit was curated by a renowned artist.
A renowned artist curated the art exhibit.



6 SENTENCE BUILDING

Task: Create sentences using the words, the tense in brackets and the passive voice.

1. Great cars - make - Germany (Present Simple)
Great cars are made in Germany.
2. The plants - not water - last week (Present Perfect Simple)
The plants have not been watered since last week.
3. The postman - not see - recently (Present Perfect Simple)
The postman hasn't been seen recently.
4. The church- build - in the 1950s (Past Simple)
The church was built in the 1950s.
5. Many languages - speak - in South Africa (Present Simple)
Many languages are spoken in South Africa.
6. The movie - released - tomorrow (Future Simple)
The movie will be released tomorrow.
7. The painting - find - in the attic (Past Simple)
The painting was found in the attic.
8. The dog - call - Max (Present Simple)
The dog is called Max.
9. The restaurant - open - next month (Future Simple)
The restaurant will be open next month.
10. The fridge - repair - this Friday (Future Simple)
The fridge will be repaired this Friday.



7

IDENTIFY THE ACTIVE AND PASSIVE VOICE

Task 1: Read the article below, then complete the activities.

In a surprising turn of events, researchers at the GreenTech Institute have made a groundbreaking discovery in the field of renewable energy. The new technology, known as SolarBoost, was unveiled in a press conference held yesterday.

SolarBoost harnesses the power of sunlight more efficiently than previous solar panel designs. This breakthrough was achieved after years of dedicated research and development.

The team was led by Dr. Sarah Thompson, a renowned expert in solar energy. According to Dr. Thompson, the new technology will revolutionise the way we generate and consume electricity.

SolarBoost's innovative design has already attracted attention from several major energy companies. Proposals for collaboration have been received, and discussions are underway.

It is expected that SolarBoost will significantly contribute to the global effort to reduce carbon emissions and combat climate change. The technology is set to undergo further testing before it can be implemented on a larger scale.

The GreenTech Institute plans to hold workshops to educate the public about the benefits of SolarBoost and other renewable energy solutions.

Task 2: Complete the tasks below.

1. Can you identify when the active voice is used in the text?
2. Can you identify when the passive voice is used in the text?
3. As a class, discuss what identifies the active and passive voice in each sentence.
4. Choose two sentences that use the active voice, then change them to the passive.
5. Choose two sentences that use the passive voice, then change them to the active.



HOMework

1 IDENTIFY THE ACTIVE AND PASSIVE VOICE

Task 1: Read the article below, then complete the activities.

New Art Exhibition Opens at City Gallery

In an exciting development for art enthusiasts, a new exhibition titled "Expressions of Nature" has been officially inaugurated at the City Gallery. The exhibit features works by both established and emerging artists from around the country.

The artworks on display span a wide range of styles and mediums, including oil paintings, sculptures, and digital art. Many of the pieces were inspired by the beauty and complexity of the natural world.

The exhibition was curated by Sarah Martinez, an accomplished curator with a passion for promoting contemporary art. According to Martinez, the goal of the exhibition is to encourage dialogue about humanity's relationship with the environment.

Visitors to the gallery will have the opportunity to engage with the artists during scheduled meet-and-greet sessions. Guided tours and interactive workshops will also be available for those interested in delving deeper into the themes of the artworks.

"Expressions of Nature" is anticipated to draw visitors from all walks of life, fostering a greater appreciation for the intricate connections between art and the natural world.

Task 2: Complete the tasks below.

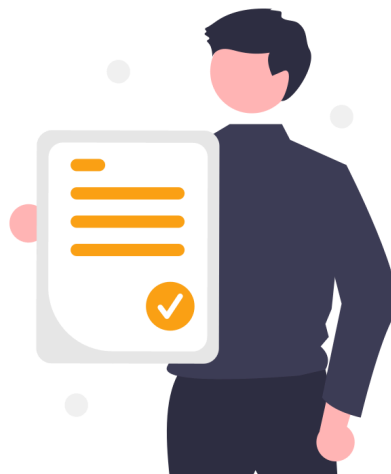
1. Can you identify when the active voice is used in the text?
2. Can you identify when the passive voice is used in the text?
3. Explain what identifies the active and passive voice in each sentence.
4. Choose two sentences that use the active voice, then change them to the passive.
5. Choose two sentences that use the passive voice, then change them to the active.



2 FROM ACTIVE TO PASSIVE VOICE

Task: Rewrite the sentences in the passive voice.

- a. They were cooking breakfast when I came in.
Breakfast was being cooked when I came in.
- b. No one has ever taught him how to use the dishwasher.
He has never been taught how to use the dishwasher.
- c. The lawyer is preparing a contract for their client.
A contract is being prepared by the lawyer.
- d. Millions of people all over the world watch this show.
This show is watched by millions of people all over the world.
- e. My dad took this picture a while ago.
This picture was taken by my dad a while ago.
- f. The designer created a stunning gown with intricate lacework.
A stunning gown with intricate lacework was created by the designer.
- g. The brand launched an elegant watch with advanced features.
An elegant watch with advanced features was launched by the brand.
- h. The runner broke the world record with sheer speed.
The world record was broken with sheer speed by the runner.
- i. The painter depicted a vivid sunset over the lake.
A vivid sunset over the lake was depicted by the painter.
- j. The teacher's lesson ignited a love for learning.
A love for learning was ignited by the teacher's lesson.



3 FROM PASSIVE TO ACTIVE VOICE

Task: Rewrite the sentences in the active voice.

- a. The proposal was approved by the board of directors.
The board of directors approved the proposal.
- b. The room was cleaned by the housekeeping staff.
The housekeeping staff cleaned the room.
- c. The message was conveyed through a series of emails.
A series of emails conveyed the message.
- d. The invention was patented by the scientist.
The scientist patented the invention.
- e. The question was answered during the lecture.
During the lecture, someone answered the question.
- f. The formula was derived by the mathematician.
The mathematician derived the formula.
- g. The fire was extinguished by the firefighters.
Firefighters extinguished the fire.
- h. The speech was delivered by the guest speaker.
The guest speaker delivered the speech.
- i. The secret was revealed to me by my best friend.
My best friend revealed the secret to me.
- j. The experiment was conducted in a controlled environment.
They conducted the experiment in a controlled environment.

