

Active & Passive

Active Voice Form



- When we want to say that the subject of a sentence is doing the action, we use the verb of that sentence in its Active form:
- e.g. A man is cutting down a tree.
'A man' = subject -- doing the action -- cutting -
Active

Active & Passive

Passive Voice Form



- When we want to say that the subject of a sentence is not doing anything but is allowing something to be done to it by somebody else, we use the Passive Voice form:

e.g. A tree is being cut down by a man.

‘A tree’ = subject = not doing anything, but allowing ‘a man’ to cut it. **Passive**

Active-Passive Voice – example

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- **The boy is carrying the girl.** **Active Voice**

The boy = subject

is carrying = verb

the girl = object of the verb

Who is doing the action of carrying? =

‘The boy’ – subject of the sentence

Active-Passive Voice – example



- The girl is being carried by the boy. **Passive Voice**



The girl = subject

is being carried = verb

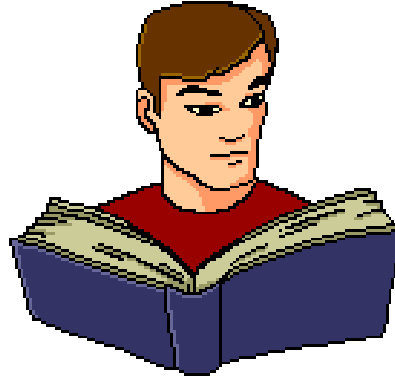
by = preposition

the boy = object of the preposition 'by'

Who is doing the action of carrying?

= **Not** 'The girl', the subject, but 'the boy', the object

Active-Passive Voice

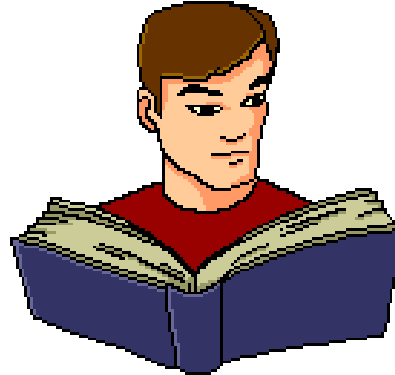



- John reads a book every day. Active Voice
'John' -- the subject of the Active sentence...

A book is read every day by John. Passive Voice
'by John' – object of the preposition 'by'

The subject of the Active sentence becomes the object of the preposition in the Passive sentence!

Active-Passive Voice



- John reads a book every day. Active Voice
'reads' –  Verb of the Active sentence
A book is read every day by John. Passive voice
The Active form of the verb in Active sentence is changed into the Passive form in Passive sentence.
'reads' becomes "is read"!

Active-Passive Voice



- John reads a book every day. **Active Voice**
'a book' -- subject of the verb
A book is read every day by John. **Passive voice**
'A book' -- subject of the passive sentence...

The object of the verb in the Active sentence becomes the subject of the Passive sentence.

Active-Passive Voice



- He cooks food. Active Voice
'food' – object of the verb –
singular

Food is cooked by him. Passive
Voice

'Food' – subject of the passive
sentence – singular, so 'is
cooked' -- verb **singular**



When the subject of a sentence is
singular, the verb must also be in
singular

Active-Passive Voice



- When the subject of a sentence is Plural, the verb of that sentence must be Plural:
- He carried some books. Active Voice
'some books' -- object of the verb in Active – **Plural**
Some books were carried by him. Passive Voice
'were carried' – verb – '**were**' plural / '**books**' plural

Active-Passive Voice



- She **has** signed **ten letters**. Active Voice
‘She’ – subject; ‘**has**’ – part of the verb – **singular**
‘ten letters’ – object of the verb in Active -- **plural**

Ten letters **have** been signed by her. **Passive Voice**
‘**Ten letters**’ – subject – **plural**; ‘have been signed’ verb –
‘**have**’ -- **plural**

Active-Passive Voice – Simple Present Tense

- She bakes cakes. Active
'bakes' – verb –



Cakes are baked by her.

Passive Voice

'are baked' – verb –

Active-Passive – present continuous tense

- He is building a sand castle.

‘is building’ – verb –

ACTIVE VOICE FORM

A sand castle is being built by him.

‘is being built’ – verb –

PASSIVE VOICE FORM



Active-Passive - present perfect tense

- He has drawn a picture.
'has drawn' – verb –
ACTIVE VOICE



- A picture has been drawn by him.
'has been drawn' – verb –
PASSIVE VOICE

Active-Passive



- According to the grammar rules, the present perfect continues tense is not used in PASSIVE VOICE FORM; however, in the contemporary English, there are occasions where the present perfect continues tense is used in the Passive Voice:
- e.g. He has been mowing the lawn. Active Voice
The lawn has been being mowed by him.
Passive Voice

Active-Passive Voice – simple past tense



- She told me a secret.
'told' – verb

Active Voice

A secret was told (to) me by her.

Passive Voice

'was told' – verb

Active-Passive Voice – Past continuous Tense



- The postman was delivering the post.

'was delivering' -- verb

ACTIVE VOICE FORM

The post was being delivered by the postman.

'was being delivered' -- verb

PASSIVE VOICE FORM

Active-Passive Voice - past perfect tense



She had eaten several peas before she offered him any.

‘had eaten’ – verb — Active

Several peas had been eaten by her before she offered him any.

‘had been eaten’ – verb - Passive

Active-Passive Voice



- According to the traditional grammar rules, the past perfect continuous tense is not used in Passive form; however, in the contemporary English, there are occasions where the past perfect tense is used in the Passive Form, too
- He had been writing letters for half an hour before somebody called him out.
- Letters had been being written for half an hour (by him) before somebody called him out.

Active-Passive Voice – Simple future tense



They will give the beggar some money.

‘will give’ -- verb - **Active**

The beggar will be given some money by them.

‘will be given’ -- verb - **Passive**

Active-Passive



- According to the traditional grammar rules, the future continuous tense in the Active is not used in Passive Voice Form.
- e.g. They will be playing with fireworks by the time their father reaches home. Active
'will be playing' – verb – future continuous

----- NO PASSIVE -----

Active-Passive Voice - future perfect tense



- Sue will have sewn two dresses by 12 O' clock.

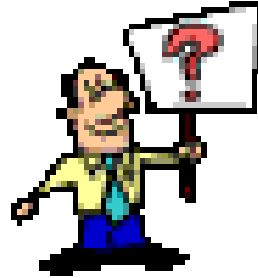
'will have sewn' – verb — **Active**

Two dresses will have been sewn by 12 O' clock by Sue.

'will have been sewn' – verb –

Passive

Active-Passive Voice



- According to the traditional grammar rules, the future perfect continuous tense is not used in the Passive Voice Form:
e.g. You will have been working on the course material for 2 hours by 6 in the evening.
'will have been working' – verb –
Future Perfect Continuous Tense – Active
----- NO CHANGE -----

Active-Passive Voice

The Modal Auxiliary (helping) Verbs in Passive Voice Form take 'be':

e.g. He will give you a book. Active Voice

You will be given a book by him. Passive

e.g. They can pick a number. Active Voice

A number can be picked by them. Passive

e.g. We must finish this job. Active Voice

This job must be finished by us. Passive