

Passive/ Active Voice

Active voice means that a sentence has a subject that acts upon its verb.

Passive voice means that a subject is a recipient of a verb's action.

Active Examples

Lorenzo ate 5 tacos for dinner.

The professor will give you instructions.

Hundreds of residents visit the library every week.

Passive Examples

The fish was caught by the seagull.

Our turkey was eaten by the dog.

The game was won by the rookie.

Converting from Passive to Active

The fish was caught by the seagull. —> The seagull caught the fish.

Our turkey was eaten by the dog. —> The dog ate the turkey.

The game was won by the rookie. —> The rookie won the game.

Tips

- ❖ Change the order of your sentence. The order should be subject, verb, and object.
- ❖ Make sure the subject is completing the action.
- ❖ Remove prepositional phrases when followed by the verb. Such as “by the” or “by a”.

Active Importance

The active voice ensures that the subject takes responsibility of the action. It allows the writer to keep an authoritative tone and keeps the reader engaged. For these reasons, using active voice is important because it conveys a strong and clear tone.

Sentence Breakdown Diagrams

