

INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: VI	Department: ENGLISH	Date of Submission: AUGUST, 2023
WORKSHEET NO: 13	ACTIVE AND PASSIVE VOICE	Note: To be written in English Grammar Notebook

ACTIVE AND PASSIVE VOICE

The verb form which indicates whether the subject (person or object) of a sentence does something or something has been done to the subject is called voice.

The voices are classified on the basis of whether the subject acts or is acted upon. There are different types of Voices that can be used to convey the same meaning to a sentence but in a different manner. Different types of voices don't change the meaning of the sentence, instead, the way of speaking changes.

The voice is broadly classified into two categories:

- 1. Active Voice
- 2. Passive Voice

Active Voice:

When the subject in the sentence is the doer of the action, the verb is said to be in active voice.

For Example

1. Riya is drinking water.

(Here Riya is the subject and drinking is the verb. Riya is the doer of the action here so the verb is in active voice.)

2. Seema is writing a poem.

(Here Seema is the subject and Writing a poem is the verb of the sentence. Seema is doing the action and thus the verb is again in active voice.)

Passive voice:

When the subject in the sentence is acted upon or receives the action, the verb is said to be in a passive voice.

For Example

1. Water is being drunk by Riya.

(Here Riya is receiving the action of drinking water therefore we can say that the verb is in passive voice.)

2. A poem is written by Seema.

(Here Seema is receiving the action of writing a poem so again the verb is in passive voice.)

General Rules:

1. **Interrogative Sentence:** The interrogative form of the sentence is always unchanged in these types of Sentences, i.e. use the helping verb before the subject in Passive voice.

For Example:

Is he taking coffee? (Active Voice)

Is coffee being taken by him? (Passive Voice)

2. **Imperative Sentence:** The conversion of Imperative sentences is explained with the help of the following example.

Help the needy. (Active Voice)

Let the needy be helped. (Passive Voice).

Various forms of 'be' as per Different Tenses:

Tense	Past	Present	Future
Simple	was/ were	is/ am/ are	Will be/ shall be
Continuous	was/ were being	is/ am/ are being	-
Perfect	had been	have been/ has been	shall/ will have been

Let us consider some examples of both active voice and passive voice in a tabular form:

Active Voice	Passive Voice	
Tanu reads a book.	A book is read by Tanu.	
Ram is singing a song.	A song is being sung by Ram.	
Rama and Priya are playing carrom board.	Carrom board is being played by Rama and Priya.	



Some useful definitions:

Word	Definition
Verb	A word used to describe any action, state or occurrence is known as a verb.

Transitive Verb	It is a verb that is followed by any noun, pronoun, or noun phrase that acts as an object to complete the sentence's meaning.	
Voice of the Verb	The way of voice given to a transitive verb is referred to as the Voice of the Verb.	
Active Voice	When the subject in the sentence is the doer of the action, the verb is said to be in active voice.	
Passive Voice	When the subject in the sentence is acted upon or receives the action, the verb is said to be in a passive voice.	

Exercise: 1

Go through the sentences given below and identify the voice whether it is Active or Passive.

- 1. Shreya Ghoshal sings beautiful songs.
- 2. The sun sets in the west.
- 3. The boy was being beaten by his teacher.
- 4. Bucky is helped by Steve.
- 5. The carpenter is building the desk.
- 6. The woodcutter cut down the tree.
- 7. The man dropped his axe into the river.
- 8. The bird was shot by the naughty boy.
- 9. The bag was found by me.
- 10. Natasha lost the money.
- 11. The farmer will plough the field.
- 12. The work will be finished by the workers in a day.
- 13. The enemy has entered the war zone.
- 14. Who sang the song?
- 15. The children teased the animals.

Exercise: 2

Identify the given sentences in active or passive voice.

- 1. Pinky hit the target.
- 2. This food is cooked by Rahul.
- 3. Nikita draws very well.
- 4. This song is sung by my father.
- 5. She was baking cakes.
- 6. He plays football.





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