

# **Active & Passive Voice**



Emma walked the dog.

The dog was walked by Emma.

The dog jumped over the hurdle.

The hurdle was jumped over by the dog.

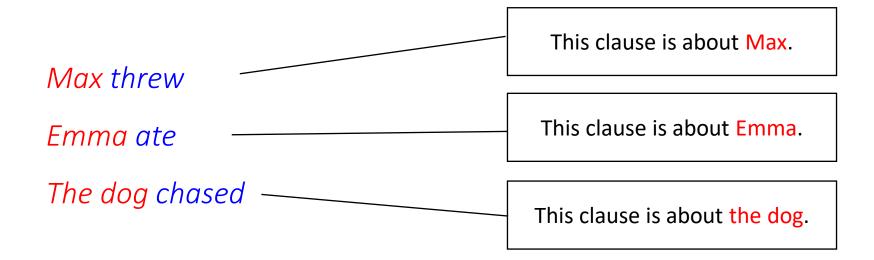




### Parts of a Clause

The subject is what the clause is about.

A **clause** is a group of words which contains a **verb**. All **verbs** have a **subject**.



In some **clauses** there is something the verb acts on. This is called the object.

**ANSWERS** 

# Identifying Subject, Verb and Object

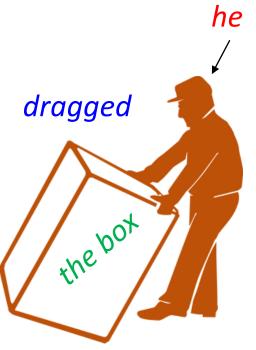


I lost my dog.

Raj looked for the dog.

He found her shut in a box.

Raj dragged the box.



Can you spot the subject, verb and object in these clauses?



### **Active Voice**

Active voice is when the subject 'does' the verb.

Max was doing the *pulling*.

Max pulled the cart.

The dog was doing the *eating*.

-The dog ate the sandwich!

The dog was doing the *chasing*.

The dog chased the cat.

The subject 'acts' out the verb in the active voice.



Max

**SUBJECT VERB OBJECT** 

the cart

### **Passive Voice**



Passive voice changes the emphasis of a sentence.

Passive voice is when the verb is done to the subject.

This clause is about the glass.

The glass was broken by the dog.

The verb *to drop* happened to the glass.

This clause is about the pie.

The pie was eaten by the dog. -

The verb to eat happened to the pie.

This clause is about the cat.

The cat was chased by the dog.

The verb *to chase* happened to the cat.







We use <u>is</u>, <u>are</u>, <u>was</u>, <u>were</u>, to form verbs for **passive voice** (<u>auxiliary verbs</u>)

### **Passive Voice**



The horn <u>was</u> pressed by the angry driver.

A secret <u>was</u> revealed when we opened the door.

The dog was scared by the clown.

Sometimes the person doing the action is not included in the sentence.

The horn was pressed.

The dog <u>was</u> scared.



**ACTIVE:** SUBJECT DOES THE VERB

### **Active and Passive Voice**

**PASSIVE: VFRB** DONE TO THE **SUBJECT** 



The dog found a bone.

**ACTIVE** 

**ANSWFRS** 

A bone was found by the dog.

**PASSIVE** 

The carpet was chewed by the dog.

**PASSIVE** 

The dog chewed the carpet.

The dog hid the toys.

**ACTIVE** 

The toys were hidden by the dog.

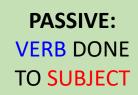
**PASSIVE** 

**ACTIVE** 

Which of these have an **active voice** and which have a **passive voice**?

ACTIVE:
SUBJECT DOES
THE VERB

## **Choosing Active and Passive Voice**

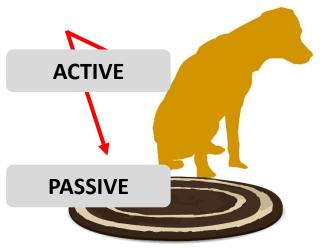




You can change the emphasis of a sentence through the voice you use.

emphasis on the dog

The dog chewed the carpet.



emphasis on the carpet

The carpet was chewed by the dog.

emphasis on the carpet – dog off the hook!

The carpet was chewed.

**PASSIVE** 

ACTIVE:
SUBJECT DOES
THE VERB

# **Choosing passive voice**

PASSIVE:
VERB DONE
TO SUBJECT

Passive voice is sometimes used in **formal** or **generalised** writing...

Five portions of fruit should be eaten every day.

Care must be taken when using power tools.

The mixture was stirred.

or when elements are unknown

My bag has been stolen. -

I do not know who stole it.

By people in general.

It does not matter who stirred it.



or to **hide** information

The hospital was unavoidably closed.

Football cards have been banned at our school.

I don't want you to know who was responsible.

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