

Active vs. Passive Voice

Active Voice	Passive Voice
<p>When the subject of a sentence is doing the verb, as in "Kat kicked the soccer ball."</p> <p>Active voice is used for most writing that is non-scientific because it makes writing more clear and less wordy for readers.</p>	<p>When the subject of the sentence is acted upon by the verb, as in "The soccer ball was kicked by Kat."</p> <p>Passive voice, unless used for a specific purpose, is typically avoided in non-scientific writing.</p>
<p>Examples</p> <p>The dispatcher is notifying the firemen about the smoke on Sunset Boulevard.</p>	<p>Examples</p> <p>The firemen are being notified about the smoke on Sunset Boulevard.</p>
<p>Over half of the students failed the entrance exam.</p>	<p>The entrance exam was failed by over half the students.</p>
<p>She slammed on the brakes when the light turned red.</p>	<p>The brakes were slammed on by her when the light turned red.</p>
<p>The councilmen are revisiting the case tomorrow.</p>	<p>The case is being revisited by the councilmen tomorrow.</p>

Practice: Label the sentences A (Active) or P (Passive).

1. The network is being rerouted by the technicians. ____
2. The manuscript is written by the screenwriters. ____
3. Kathleen listened to her music on the way to the game. ____
4. I have completed my homework. ____
5. My car is being repaired by the mechanic. ____
6. The bill is being considered by the committee. ____
7. The bills were paid on time. ____
8. She climbed the most difficult route out of the entire group. ____
9. The students worked diligently to complete their assignments. ____
10. The textbook was read aloud by the teacher to the students. ____