AILET

Difference Between Active And Passive Voice

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In order to understand voice you must be familiar with the answers to the following questions:

1. What is a verb?
2. What is meant by the subject of a sentence?
3. What is meant by the object of a sentence?

What is voice?

The voice of a verb refers to the relationship that the action denoted by the verb has with the subject and/or object of the sentence. Voice can be of two types—Active and Passive.

What is active voice?

A verb is said to be in the active voice when:

-the entity which is doing the action denoted by the verb is the subject of the sentence, and

-the entity which is at the receiving end of the action is the object of the sentence.

Eg. **She is reading the book.**

This is an active sentence. Here ‘She’ is the subject of the sentence, ‘is reading’ is the verb of the sentence and ‘book’ is the object of the sentence. We see that ‘She’ is the entity who is doing the action of ‘reading’. ‘Book’ is the entity which is receiving the action of ‘reading’.

What is passive voice?

A verb is said to be in the passive voice when:

-the entity which is at the receiving end of the action denoted by the verb is the subject of the sentence, and

-the entity doing the action is either omitted or placed at the end of the sentence.

Eg. **The dish was prepared by Jane.**

This is a passive sentence. Here ‘The dish’ is the subject of the sentence, ‘was prepared’ is the verb of the sentence and ‘Jane’ is the entity who did the action of ‘preparing’. We see that ‘The dish’ is the entity on whom the action has been done.

Eg. **The fence was repaired.**

This is a passive sentence. Here ‘The fence’ is the subject of the sentence and ‘was repaired’ is the verb of the sentence. The entity which did the action of ‘repair’ has been omitted from this sentence. Note that ‘The fence’ is the entity on whom the action of ‘repair’ has been done.

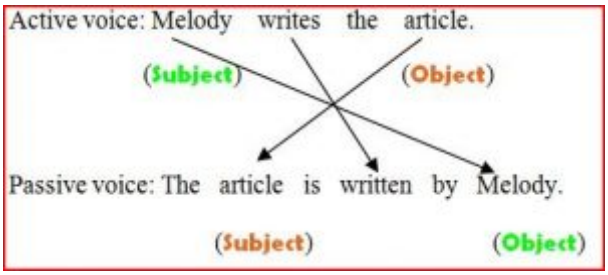
How to change active voice to passive voice?

You can follow the following steps in order to convert an active sentence to a passive sentence.

(i) Move the object of the active sentence to the position of its subject,

(ii) Place the subject of the active sentence at the end of the sentence. Put it into a phrase beginning with the preposition ‘by’.

(iii) If necessary, add an appropriate form of the verb ‘be’ to the main verb.



Active and Passive Voice

How to change passive voice to active voice?

Follow these steps to change a passive sentence into an active sentence.

(i) Treat the subject of the passive sentence as its object.

(ii) Remove the preposition ‘by’ from the phrase containing the entity doing the action denoted by the verb. Treat it as the subject of the sentence.

(iii) As per need, remove the form of ‘be’ preceding the main verb and alter the form of the verb.

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