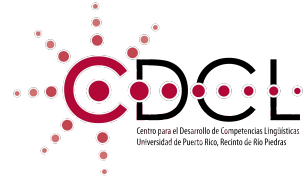




Writing in active voice

Important:



At the end of this presentation there is a link to a Google Forms quiz. It is recommended that you score an 80% or higher.

Please take your time reviewing and studying this material before you proceed with the quiz.

Objectives

- Reinforce the importance of using active voice in your writing
- Differentiate between active and passive voice
- Practice using active voice

Why is writing in an active voice important?

ACTIVE VOICE



Wild penguins
attacked my sister.

action subject

PASSIVE VOICE



subject action

My sister was attacked
by wild penguins.

ACTIVE VOICE

Make a New Friend Today

Over 100 friendly and healthy animals are hoping for a new home.



- All animals are fully vetted
- Adopting is less expensive than breeders
- Rescue dogs are loyal and affectionate to new owners
- Learn all about your dog's history before you adopt

PASSIVE VOICE

A New Friend Can Be Found

A new home is the dream of over 100 friendly and healthy animals at Pretend Animal Shelter.



- Full veterinary care (spaying, neutering and vaccinations) has been given to all animals
- A dog that is adopted is less expensive than one purchased from a breeder
- You'll be treated with loyalty and affection by a dog that you adopt
- Your dog's personality and history will be shared with you before you adopt

Why is writing in an active voice important?

It is important because by using active voice, the subject controls the action of the verb.

When a sentence is structured using active voice, it is deemed an **active sentence**.



Wait!

Let's review some terms...

- ❖ **Grammatical voice:** a grammatical category that refers to the relationship between the verb, the subject, and the object.
- ❖ **Active relationship:** type of voice in which the subject is an active participant in relation to the verb.
- ❖ **Subject agent:** when the subject provokes, performs, or triggers the action.

The active grammatical voice
establishes an **active relationship**
between the **verb** and the **subject agent**.

Advantages

- Enables the text to be more concise.
- Facilitates the reading of the text.
- Allows the text to be more evocative.



Disadvantages

- Does not direct attention to the object.
- It can confuse the reader about who is doing the action and who is receiving it.



Structure

Active voice follows this structure:

subject
agent + verb + object and direct
complement

Notice: Only sentences with active voice can have direct complements. This is because in the passive voice, what would be the complement acts as the passive subject.

Examples

Let's see...

→ Active voice:

- **Andrea** **discussed** **the new strategy**.
subject agent verb object and direct complemento

→ Passive voice:

- **The new strategy** **was discussed** **by Andrea**.
passive subject verb indirect complement

Examples

María skied on ice.

subject verb DC



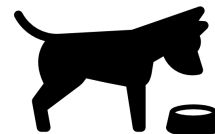
Juan plays the guitar.

subject verb object



My dog ate my homework.

subject verb object



The doctor prescribed medicines to the patient.

subject verb DC IC



Let's compare

Active voice and passive voice

active voice	passive voice
John won the gold medal.	The gold medal was won by John.
The tutor will revise my essay.	My essay will be revised by the tutor.
My mother remodeled her house.	The house was remodeled by my mother.

Observe how the active sentence is more brief and concise. Can you see that, although expressing the same message, the passive one is longer?

Let's review

Which sentences are written in active voice?

- ___ The food was prepared by my grandmother.
- ___ My boyfriend crashed the car.
- ___ She sleeps alone.
- ___ The dance was organized by the group.
- ___ The dog ate fast.
- ___ The guitar was tuned by the director.
- ___ The band gave us a serenade.

Which sentences are written in active voice?

 The food was prepared by my grandmother.

 My boyfriend crashed the car.

 She sleeps alone.

 The dance was organized by the group.

 The dog ate fast.

 The guitar was tuned by the director.

 The band gave us a serenade.

Final reflection

Writing in an active voice helps us keep the reader hooked. This makes the text flow smoothly and more concisely. It is especially relevant when our intention is to argue a position or persuade the reader.

References

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Para finalizar, haga clic sobre el enlace para tomar la prueba y enviar el informe a su profesor(a):

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdp6ttrybvj3j6I_jq2gE69w0Wu_G5Qf3sNp-b-Ywm9YazZQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

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