

Active And Passive Voice

* Compare:-

a. Rama helps Hari.

b. Hari is helped by Rama.

* These two sentences carry the same meaning.

* But in sentence a, the form of the verb shows that the person denoted by the subject "does" something.

Ex → Rama (the person denoted by the subject) does something.

* The Verb "Helps" is said to be in active voice.

* In sentence b, the form of the Verb shows that something "is done" to the person denoted by the subject.

Ex → Something "is done" to Hari (Person denoted by the subject).

* The Verb "Helped" is said to be in Passive Voice.

Definition :-

* A Verb is in the Active Voice when its form shows (as in sentence a) that the person or thing denoted by the Subject "does" something; or; in other words, is the "doer" of the action.

* The Active Voice is so-called because the Person denoted by the subject "acts".

* A Verb is in the Passive Voice when its form shows (as in sentence b) that something is done to the person or thing denoted by the subject.

* The Passive Voice is so-called because the person or thing denoted by the subject is not acting, but "Passive", that is, ~~suffers~~ or receives some action.

Active Voice	Passive Voice
1. Sita <u>loves</u> Sanitri	Sanitri <u>is loved</u> by Sita.
2. The mason <u>is building</u> the wall	The wall <u>is being built</u> by the mason.
3. Some boys <u>were helping</u> the wounded man.	The wounded man was <u>being helped</u> by some boys.
4. Who <u>did</u> this?	By <u>whom</u> was this done?

* It will be noticed that when the Verb is changed from Active Voice to Passive Voice, the Object of the transitive Verb becomes the * Subject of the Verb in Passive Voice.

* [Thus in sentence 1, Sanitri, which is the object of loves in the Active Voice, becomes the subject of the Verb in Passive Voice.]

Tense	Active Voice	Passive Voice
1. Simple Present	take, takes	am taken, is taken, are taken
2. Present Continuous	am taking, is taking, are taking	am being taken, is being taken, are being taken.
3. Present Perfect	has taken, have taken	has been taken, have been taken
4. Simple Past	took	was taken, were taken
5. Past Continuous	was taking, were taking	was being taken, were being taken
6. Past Perfect	had taken	had been taken
7. Simple Future	will take, shall take	will be taken, shall be taken
8. Can/may/must etc	can take, must take	can be taken, must be taken

More examples:-

1. My pen has been stolen → Somebody stole my pen
2. I was asked my name → They asked me my name
3. English is spoken all over the world → People speak english all over the world.
4. I have been invited to the party → Someone has invited me to the party.
5. All orders will be ~~executed~~ promptly → We will execute all orders promptly.

I Convert to Passive Voice

1. The cat killed the mouse

Ans: The mouse was killed by the cat

2. The man cut down the tree

Ans: The tree was cut down by the man.

3. Columbus Discovered America

Ans: America was discovered by Columbus.