

# Active and Passive voice

#### What is Voice?

Voice is the form of a verb that shows whether the subject of a sentence performs the action or receives it. There are two types of voice:

#### **Active Voice:**

The subject performs the action.

**Example:** He drinks coffee.

**Explanation:** "He" is the doer of the action (drinks), so the sentence is in active voice.

#### **Passive Voice:**

The subject receives the action.

**Example:** Coffee is drunk by him.

**Explanation:** "Coffee" is receiving the action (is drunk), making the sentence passive.

## **Learning Outcomes**

- Understand the difference between active and passive voice.
- Learn how to convert sentences from active to passive voice and vice versa.

#### **How to Convert from Active to Passive Voice**

## **General Steps:**

• Identify the subject, verb, and object in the active sentence.

**Example: Kapil eats an apple.** → Subject: Kapil, Verb: eats, Object: an apple.

- Move the object to the beginning of the sentence.
- Use the correct form of the verb "to be" + past participle of the main verb.
- Add "by" before the original subject.
  - Active: Kapil eats an apple.
  - Passive: An apple is eaten by Kapil

#### **Tense-Wise Conversion Rules**

## **Simple Present:**

- Active: verb in base form (s/es)
- Passive: is/am/are + past participle

#### **Examples:**

- o **Ritu writes a letter**. → A letter is written by Ritu.
- We play hockey. → Hockey is played by us.

## **Simple Past:**

- Active: past tense of the verb
- Passive: was/were + past participle

## **Examples:**

- He wrote a letter. → A letter was written by him.
- $\circ$  She ate a toffee.  $\rightarrow$  A toffee was eaten by her.

## **Simple Future:**

- Active: shall/will + base verb
- Passive: shall/will be + past participle

## **Examples:**

- o **Reema will sing a song.**  $\rightarrow$  A song will be sung by Reema.
- o Will she help you? → Will you be helped by her?

#### **Present Continuous:**

- Active: is/am/are + verb + ing
- Passive: is/am/are + being + past participle

#### **Examples:**

- Raja is writing a letter. → A letter is being written by Raja.
- o **Kavya is doing her homework**. → Homework is being done by Kavya.

#### **Past Continuous:**

Active: was/were + verb + ing

Passive: was/were + being + past participle

#### **Examples:**

 $\circ$  He was doing his homework.  $\rightarrow$  His homework was being done by him.

#### **Future Continuous:**

No passive form exists.

#### **Present Perfect:**

Active: has/have + past participle

• Passive: has/have been + past participle

## **Examples:**

- o I have finished my work. → My work has been finished by me.
- She has drawn pictures. → Pictures have been drawn by her.

#### **Past Perfect:**

Active: had + past participle

Passive: had been + past participle

## **Examples:**

o **He had received a telegram.** → A telegram had been received by him.

#### **Future Perfect:**

Active: shall/will + have + past participle

• Passive: shall/will + have been + past participle

#### **Examples:**

I shall have learnt the lesson. → The lesson will have been learnt by me.

## **Pronoun Changes in Passive Voice:**

I → me

- we → us
  - ..... \ ....
  - you → you
  - **he**  $\rightarrow$  him
  - she  $\rightarrow$  her
  - **they** → them

#### **Practice Exercises**

## **Identify Voice:**

Mark 'A' for Active Voice and 'P' for Passive Voice.

- Suman writes a poem. → A
- Mr Gupta teaches us Maths. → A
- A sweet is eaten by Paras. → P
- We obey our parents. → A
- He was rewarded the Bharat Ratna by the Government.  $\rightarrow$  P

B to I: Convert sentences from Active to Passive in various tenses (examples provided above in rules section).

#### **Points to Remember:**

- Always change the tense accordingly.
- Use the correct form of "to be" verb.
- Use the past participle form of the main verb.
- Add "by" + doer (if necessary).

## **Activity Corner**

Fill in the passive forms:

- Patients are treated by the doctor.
- Balloons are liked by little children.
- Electric bulb was invented by Thomas Edison.
- The thieves were caught by the policemen.

