

Passive Voice to Active Voice

A sentence is in active voice when the subject of the sentence is performing the action.

Example 1: Pat drove the car.

The subject *Pat* is the actor in the sentence. Pat is driving.

A sentence is in passive voice when the subject is not performing the action, but the subject is instead being acted upon by something else.

Example 2: The car was driven by Pat.

The subject *car* is not performing any action, instead Pat is acting upon the subject. Pat is still driving, but is no longer the subject of the sentence.

Change each of the following sentences from passive voice to active voice.

1. The house was destroyed by fire.
2. The poem was written by me.
3. The books were carried by Andrew from the library.
4. The star was recognized by some of her fans.
5. The decorations for the dance were provided by the Spanish club.
6. The man was attacked in the river by an alligator.
7. During the night the landscape was lit by the moon.
8. This program was brought to you by the makers of Crunchee Crackers.

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Change each of the following sentences from passive voice to active voice.

Answers: Actual student's answers may vary. Example of correct answers:

1. The house was destroyed by fire.

Fire destroyed the house.

2. The poem was written by me.

I wrote the poem.

3. The books were carried by Andrew from the library.

Andrew carried the books from the library.

4. The star was recognized by some of her fans.

Some of her fans recognized the star.

5. The decorations for the dance were provided by the Spanish club.

The Spanish club provided the decorations for the dance.

6. The man was attacked in the river by an alligator.

An alligator attacked the man in the river.

7. During the night the landscape was lit by the moon.

The moon lit the landscape during the night.

8. This program was brought to you by the makers of Crunchee Crackers.

The makers of Crunchee Crackers brought you this program.