

Voice Detective Sort

Spot who does the action in each sentence.

8.L.GC.2.c "Distinguish between active and passive voice, revising texts to maintain consistency in active voice. (C)"

NAME _____

DATE _____

ACTIVE VOICE

In active voice, the subject does the action. Active voice is usually direct and clear.

The chef prepared the meal.

PASSIVE VOICE

In passive voice, the subject receives the action. The person or thing doing the action may appear after the word by.

The mural was painted by local artists.

1 SORT _____ 8 items

Circle ACTIVE or PASSIVE for each sentence, then choose two items in Part 2 and explain how you knew.

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. The hikers crossed the bridge. | ☐ ACTIVE | ☐ PASSIVE |
| 2. The trophy was lifted by Jordan. | ☐ ACTIVE | ☐ PASSIVE |
| 3. The schedule was changed yesterday. | ☐ ACTIVE | ☐ PASSIVE |
| 4. Our class planted seeds. | ☐ ACTIVE | ☐ PASSIVE |
| 5. The lightning damaged several trees. | ☐ ACTIVE | ☐ PASSIVE |
| 6. Maya solved the puzzle. | ☐ ACTIVE | ☐ PASSIVE |
| 7. The new library will be opened next month. | ☐ ACTIVE | ☐ PASSIVE |
| 8. The wind scattered the papers. | ☐ ACTIVE | ☐ PASSIVE |

2 PROVE IT Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN One of each

Write one new active-voice sentence and one new passive-voice sentence.

ACTIVE _____

PASSIVE _____

CHALLENGE

Rewrite this passive-voice sentence in active voice: The final scores were posted by Ms. Chen.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The hikers crossed the bridge.	ACTIVE	The subject, hikers, performs the action crossed.
2	The trophy was lifted by Jordan.	PASSIVE	The subject, trophy, receives the action.
3	The schedule was changed yesterday.	PASSIVE	The subject, schedule, receives the action, and the doer is not named.
4	Our class planted seeds.	ACTIVE	The subject, class, performs the action planted.
5	The lightning damaged several trees.	ACTIVE	The subject, lightning, performs the action damaged.
6	Maya solved the puzzle.	ACTIVE	The subject, Maya, performs the action solved.
7	The new library will be opened next month.	PASSIVE	The subject, library, receives the action will be opened.
8	The wind scattered the papers.	ACTIVE	The subject, wind, performs the action scattered.

PART 2 • PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 • MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **ACTIVE:** The mechanic inspected the engine.
- **PASSIVE:** The engine was inspected by the mechanic.

Challenge: Ms. Chen posted the final scores.

For Part 2, students should name the subject and tell whether it does or receives the action. Passive sentences can be passive even when the person or thing doing the action is not named.