

Voice Choice

Sort each sentence, then explain two choices.

8L3.a "Use verbs in the active and passive voice and in the conditional and subjunctive mood to achieve particular effects (e.g., emphasizing the actor or the action; expressing uncertainty or describing a state contrary to fact)."

NAME _____

DATE _____

ACTIVE VOICE

In active voice, the subject does the action. Use it to spotlight the actor.

The engineer tested the bridge design.

PASSIVE VOICE

In passive voice, the subject receives the action. Use it to spotlight the action or the receiver.

The bridge design was tested by the engineer.

1 SORT

8 items

Read each sentence and circle ACTIVE or PASSIVE.

1. The storm damaged several windows.

ACTIVE

PASSIVE

2. Jordan will deliver the supplies tomorrow.

ACTIVE

PASSIVE

3. Several windows were damaged by the storm.

ACTIVE

PASSIVE

4. The robotics team programmed the drone.

ACTIVE

PASSIVE

5. The winning essay was selected by the judges.

ACTIVE

PASSIVE

6. The missing map was found near the trail.

ACTIVE

PASSIVE

7. Our class collected 300 cans for the food drive.

ACTIVE

PASSIVE

8. The librarian recommended a mystery novel.

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 sentence in active voice and one new sentence in passive voice.

ACTIVE _____

PASSIVE _____

CHALLENGE

Write the same event in active and passive voice. Then write one sentence telling which version better spotlights the actor.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The storm damaged several windows.	ACTIVE	The subject, storm, does the action.
2	Jordan will deliver the supplies tomorrow.	ACTIVE	The subject, Jordan, does the action.
3	Several windows were damaged by the storm.	PASSIVE	The subject, windows, receives the action.
4	The robotics team programmed the drone.	ACTIVE	The subject, robotics team, does the action.
5	The winning essay was selected by the judges.	PASSIVE	The subject, essay, receives the action.
6	The missing map was found near the trail.	PASSIVE	The subject, map, receives the action.
7	Our class collected 300 cans for the food drive.	ACTIVE	The subject, class, does the action.
8	The librarian recommended a mystery novel.	ACTIVE	The subject, librarian, does the action.

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 photographer captured the eclipse.
- **PASSIVE:** The eclipse was captured by the photographer.

Challenge: Active: The firefighters rescued the family. Passive: The family was rescued by the firefighters. The active version better spotlights the firefighters.

For Part 2, students may choose any two items and should identify the subject and tell whether it does or receives the action. Accept passive sentences without a by phrase when the subject clearly receives the action.