Voice Choice

Sort active and passive voice, then prove your choices.

10.LU "The student will use the conventions of Standard English when speaking and writing, differentiating between contexts that call for formal English and situations where informal discourse is more appropriate. Grammar Use, edit..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

ACTIVE VOICE

Use active voice when the subject performs the action. Active voice often makes the actor clear and direct.

The debate team organized a food drive.

PASSIVE VOICE

Use passive voice when the subject receives the action. The actor may appear in a by phrase or may be left out.

The ancient map was discovered beneath the floorboards.

1 SORT

8 items

For each sentence, circle ACTIVE or PASSIVE, then choose two items and explain what evidence helped you sort each one.

1. The town council approved the proposal. ACTIVE PASSIVE

2. After the storm, workers repaired the bridge. ACTIVE PASSIVE

3. The final schedule was posted online. ACTIVE PASSIVE

4. The librarian recommended several mysteries. ACTIVE PASSIVE

5. A new vaccine was developed by researchers. ACTIVE PASSIVE

6. The mural was painted by neighborhood artists. ACTIVE PASSIVE

7. The chef will prepare the meal tonight. ACTIVE PASSIVE

8. The results were announced at noon. 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 sentence and one new PASSIVE sentence about two different topics.

ACTIVE _____

PASSIVE _____

CHALLENGE

Write two sentences about the same event, one in active voice and one in passive voice, then explain which sentence better emphasizes the actor.

Voice Choice

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The town council approved the proposal.	**ACTIVE**	The subject, town council, performs the action approved.
2	After the storm, workers repaired the bridge.	**ACTIVE**	The subject, workers, performs the action repaired.
3	The final schedule was posted online.	**PASSIVE**	The subject, schedule, receives the action was posted.
4	The librarian recommended several mysteries.	**ACTIVE**	The subject, librarian, performs the action recommended.
5	A new vaccine was developed by researchers.	**PASSIVE**	The subject, vaccine, receives the action was developed.
6	The mural was painted by neighborhood artists.	**PASSIVE**	The subject, mural, receives the action was painted.
7	The chef will prepare the meal tonight.	**ACTIVE**	The subject, chef, performs the action will prepare.
8	The results were announced at noon.	**PASSIVE**	The subject, results, receives the action were announced.

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 replaced the worn belt.
- **PASSIVE**: The trophy was presented after the tournament.

Challenge: The principal announced the cancellation. The cancellation was announced by the principal. The active sentence better emphasizes the principal, who performed the action.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. Accept reasonable explanations that identify whether the subject performs or receives the action. In the challenge, students may choose either voice if their explanation accurately matches the emphasis of their sentence.