

1. Which of the following clauses are in the active voice and which are in the passive voice? The answers are bolded.

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| a. The announcer reported the results of the election. | active |
| b. A small child started the fire. | active |
| c. He was frightened by the loud noise. | passive |
| d. The deer was killed by the hunter. | passive |
| e. My sister won the contest. | active |
| f. The secretary shredded the documents. | active |
| g. Basketball is enjoyed by everyone. | passive |
| h. My sister ordered this package. | active |
| i. The game was stopped by the referee. | passive |
| j. The detective discovered the evidence. | active |

2. Turn each of the following active clauses into their passive equivalents. The answers are bolded.

Note: To retain the same meaning from active to passive, the verb “to be” must carry the same tense as the main verb of the active sentence.

- a. The little dog buried the dirty old bone.
The old bone was buried by the little dog.
- b. My nasty uncle Pete fired the servant.
The servant was fired by my nasty uncle Pete.
- c. The archaeologist on the dig uncovered the ruins of the ancient city.
The ruins of the ancient city were uncovered by the archaeologist on the dig.
- d. Sailors consume large quantities of fish.
Large quantities of fish are consumed by sailors.
- e. Good music soothes our souls.
Our souls are soothed by good music.
- f. That teacher taught chemistry and physics.
Chemistry and physics were taught by that teacher.
- g. The local newspaper published my letter complaining about trash collection.
My letter complaining about trash collection was published by the local newspaper.
- h. The cat cornered the terrified mouse.
The terrified mouse was cornered by the cat.
- i. An honest stranger returned my lost wallet.
My lost wallet was returned by an honest stranger.
- j. Your attitude surprises me.
I am surprised by your attitude.

- k. The proctor has administered the test.
The test has been administered by the proctor.
 - l. The whole town will remember you.
You will be remembered by the whole town.
 - m. The post office will have delivered the package by then.
The package will have been delivered by the post office by then.
 - n. The researchers had expected those results.
Those results had been expected by the researchers.
 - o. My cousin is building this house.
This house is being built by my cousin.
 - p. The assistant was grading the exams.
The exams were being graded by the assistant.
3. Turn each of the following active clauses into their passive equivalents by using “to get”. The answers are bolded.
- Note:** The verb “to get” may serve as the auxiliary instead of to be in the passive voice, usually in less formal contexts.
- a. The little dog buried the dirty old bone.
The dirty old bone got buried by the little dog.
 - b. My nasty uncle Pete fired the servant.
The servant got fired by my nasty uncle Pete.
 - c. Sailors consume large quantities of fish.
Large quantities of fish got consumed by sailors.
 - d. That teacher taught chemistry and physics.
Chemistry and physics got taught by that teacher.
4. Turn the following active clauses into truncated passives. The answers are bolded.
- a. Someone left that dog out all night.
That dog was left out all night.
 - b. A thief stole all my jewels.
All my jewels were stolen.
 - c. I ruined your valuable painting.
Your valuable painting was ruined.
 - d. Everyone respects my family.
My family is respected.

- e. The treasurer gave the treasurer's report at the end of the meeting.
The treasurer's report was given to me at the end of the meeting.

5. Turn the following truncated passives into full passives by supplying a doer. The answers are bolded.

- a. He was arrested and searched.
He was arrested and searched by the police.
- b. The books were read to the children.
The books were read to the children by their parents.
- c. Your car got wrecked.
Your car got wrecked by him.
- d. The show was cancelled.
The show was cancelled by the organizers.
- e. The land got developed.
The land got developed by that company.

6. What are the two meanings of "The contestant was withdrawn"?

- a. "Withdrawn" can function as a past participle. In this case, the sentence is passive and 'was' is an auxiliary.
The contestant withdrew. → The contestant was withdrawn.
- b. "Withdrawn" can function as an adjective. In this case, the sentence is active and 'was' is the main verb.
The withdrawn contestant.