

Worksheet and Answer Key



By www.really-learn-english.com

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Active and Passive Voice

Before you practice using this worksheet, be sure to review the [article on the active and passive voice](#) in English on our website.

Exercise A: Active or passive?

After each description, write whether the sentence is active or passive.

1. Maggie eats all the delicious ice cream.

This sentence is: _____.

2. The strong security guard protects the musicians.

This sentence is: _____.

3. The pink flower is picked.

This sentence is: _____.

4. Six songs are played by a wonderful guitarist.

This sentence is: _____.

5. Liam hugs his bear very tightly.

This sentence is: _____.

6. All of the votes are made anonymously.

This sentence is: _____.

7. Lots of apples are given to the teacher every week.

This sentence is: _____.

8. John takes the last cookie from the jar.

This sentence is: _____.

9. Fred loves his dog very much.

This sentence is: _____.

10. Some money is stolen from the bank!

This sentence is: _____.

Exercise B: Complete the sentence

Look at the lists of words. You will see a subject, a verb, and an object. Then you will see the word "ACTIVE" or the word "PASSIVE." Write a complete sentence according to the instructions. You can use the simple present tense in your answers.

1. Eric / write / emails (PASSIVE)

Your sentence: _____

2. Melissa / clean / the living room (ACTIVE)

Your sentence: _____

3. Karen / tell / the story (ACTIVE)

Your sentence: _____

4. Paul / read / the books (PASSIVE)

Your sentence: _____

5. Nathan / set / the table (ACTIVE)

Your sentence: _____

6. The dog / chase / the postal worker (PASSIVE)

Your sentence: _____

7. Helen / marry / Phil (ACTIVE)

Your sentence: _____

8. Ivan / do / exercise (ACTIVE)

Your sentence: _____

9. Rob / hear / the music (PASSIVE)

Your sentence: _____

10. Vern / put together / the puzzle (PASSIVE)

Your sentence: _____

Exercise C: Which makes more sense?

One sentence is active, and the other sentence is passive. Which one makes more sense to describe what happens? Remember to decide where the focus of the sentence is.

1. a) A beautiful wooden house is built on the beach. It is lovely!
 b) Some person builds a house on the beach.
2. a) A ring is given to Betty. Rings can be expensive.
 b) Greg gives a ring to Betty. They both feel so happy!
3. a) The bed looks very organized. It is made neatly.
 b) Someone makes the bed. That person does a good job.
4. a) Some cookies are made. Maybe they have chocolate chips.
 b) Ted makes some cookies for us. He is happy because he loves to share good food.
5. a) The chair is broken. Who did that?
 b) Someone breaks the chair. We do not know who that person is.
6. a) The book is left open under the lamp. It is open to page 124.
 b) Some person leaves the book open under the lamp. Then the person walks away.

7.
 - a) The phone is knocked off the table. Maybe it will fall on the floor.
 - b) Mr. Ericson knocks the phone off the table. He looks really upset!

8.
 - a) Eggs are painted every year with bright colors.
 - b) Harry and Omar paint eggs. They have lots of fun choosing the bright colors.

9.
 - a) Our car is fixed. It will run much better now.
 - b) Someone fixes the car. I wonder what the person's name is?

10.
 - a) A beautiful shoe is left at the dance. The shoe is a mystery for the prince.
 - b) Someone leaves a shoe at the dance. Then the person goes home.

Answer Key

A.

1. This sentence is: **ACTIVE**.
2. This sentence is: **ACTIVE**.
3. This sentence is: **PASSIVE**.
4. This sentence is: **PASSIVE**.
5. This sentence is: **ACTIVE**.
6. This sentence is: **PASSIVE**.
7. This sentence is: **PASSIVE**.
8. This sentence is: **ACTIVE**.
9. This sentence is: **ACTIVE**.
10. This sentence is: **PASSIVE**.

B.

1. **Emails are written by Eric.**

OR

Emails are written.

2. **Melissa cleans the living room.**

3. **Karen tells the story.**

4. The books are read by Paul.

OR

The books are read.

5. Nathan sets the table.

6. The postal worker is chased by the dog.

OR

The postal worker is chased.

7. Helen marries Phil.

8. Ivan does exercise.

9. The music is heard by Rob.

OR

The music is heard.

10. The puzzle is put together by Vern.

OR

The puzzle is put together.

C.

1. a) A beautiful wooden house is built on the beach. It is lovely!

2. b) Greg gives a ring to Betty. They both feel so happy!

3. a) The bed looks very organized. It is made neatly.

4. b) Ted makes some cookies for us. He is happy because he loves to share good food.

5. a) **The chair is broken. Who did that?**
6. a) **The book is left open under the lamp. It is open to page 124.**
7. b) **Mr. Ericson knocks the phone off the table. He looks really upset!**
8. b) **Harry and Omar paint eggs. They have lots of fun choosing the bright colors.**
9. a) **Our car is fixed. It will run much better now.**
10. a) **A beautiful shoe is left at the dance. The shoe is a mystery for the prince.**

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