


Unit -I



ACTIVE AND PASSIVE VOICE

Dr. Shobha
Assistant Professor
PG Dept of English



ACTIVE AND PASSIVE VOICE

- Rama helps Hari.
 - Hari is helped by Rama.
 - He bought two pens.
 - Two pens were bought by him.
-
- You find that the sentence, the subject 'He' and 'Rama' is the real agent or doer of the action. The subject is active and the verb 'bought' and 'helped' is in the active voice.
 - In the second sentence, the subject 'two pens' is only the thing done. It is the sufferer or receiver of the action. So the subject is not active, but passive. The verb 'were bought' and 'helped' is in the passive voice.



DEFINITION OF ACTIVE AND PASSIVE VOICE

Def

- Voice is that form of a verb which shows whether what is denoted by the subject does something or has something done to it.

Def-

- A verb is in the Active Voice when its form shows that the person or thing denoted by the subject does something; or in other words, is the doer of the action. The Active Voice is so called because the person by the subject acts.

Def

- A verb is in the Passive Voice when its form shows that something is done to the person or thing is denoted by the subject. The passive voice is so called because the person or thing denoted by the subject is not active but passive, that is, suffers or receives some action.



Active voice	Passive voice
Sita loves Savitri	Savitri is loved by Sita
The mason is building the wall	The wall is being built by the mason.
The peon opened the gate.	The gate was opened by the peon.
Some boys were helping the wounded man.	Wounded man was helped by some boys .
He will finish the work in a fortnight.	The work will be finished by him in a fortnight.
Who did this?	Whom was this done?
Why did your brother write such a letter?	Why was such a letter written by your brother?
The man struck the horse.	The horse was struck by the man.
The cat caught the mouse.	The mouse was caught by the cat.
The bird built a nest in the tree.	A nest was built in the tree by the bird.




Tense	Active voice	Passive voice
Simple tense	take takes	am taken is taken are taken
Present continuous	am taking is taking are taking	am being taken is being taken are being taken
Present perfect	has taken have taken	has been taken have been taken
Simple past	took	was taken were taken
Past continuous	was taking were taking	was being taken were being taken
Past perfect	had taken	had been taken
Simple future	will take shall take	will be taken shall be taken
Can/may/must etc+base	can take must take	can be taken must be taken



- When verbs that take both a direct and an indirect object in the Active Voice are changed to the Passive, either object may become the subject of the Passive verb, while the other is retained.

Active	Passive
The guard refused him admittance	Admittance was refused to him by the guard. He was refused admittance by the guard.
Mr.Krishnaji teaches us grammar.	Grammar is taught to us by Mr.Krishnaji. We are taught grammar by Mr.Krishnaji.
The manager will give you a ticket.	A ticket will be given to you by the manager. You will be given a ticket by the manager.



Who taught you French?	By whom was French taught to you?/who Were you taught French by? By whom were you
He handed her a cheque?	A cheque was handed to her. She was handed a Cheque.

- An indirect object denotes the person to whom or for whom or for whom something is given or done, while a direct object usually denotes a thing. In cases like the above, it is probably more usual for passive construction to begin with the person.



STATEMENTS

- A- I love my country.
- P-My country is loved by me.

- A- He loves his parents.
- P-His parents are loved by him.

- A- He is teaching grammar.
- P-Grammar is being taught by him.

- A- They have punished him.
- P- He has been punished by them.

- A-Rashmi drove a car.
- P- A car was driven by Rashmi.



- A-She was preparing Coffee.
- P-Coffee was being prepared by her.

- A- He had posted the letter by that time.
- P-The letter had been posted by him by that time.

- A- I shall do this work.
- P-This work will be done by me.

- A-My mother will cook the food.
- P-The food will be cooked by my mother.

- A-He can write a Poem.
- P-A poem can be written by him.



QUESTIONS

- A-What do you want?
- P- What is wanted by you?

- A- How does she prepare coffee?
- P-How is coffee prepared by her?

- A-What is Usha Doing?
- P- What is being done by Usha?



- A- What has she done?
- P- What has been done by her?

- A- Who wrote this letter?
- P-Who was this letter written by?

- A-Where did you meet her?
- P-Where was she met by you?



IMPERATIVES

- A-Do it now.
- P-Let it be done now.

- A-Don't do it now.
- P-Let it not be done now.

- A-Don't allow him to go.
- P-Let him not be allowed to go.

- A-Clean the board.
- P-Let the board be cleaned.



- A- Take care of him.
- P- Let him be taken care of.

- A-Let him do it.
- P- Let it be done by him.

- A-Don't mistake me.
- P-Let me not be mistaken.

- A- Please speak aloud.
- P-You are requested to speak aloud.

- A-Don't accept bribes.
- P-Bribes should not be accepted.



TENSE AND VOICE FORMS

	Active Voice	Passive Voice
1	Present simple tense	Present simple tense
2	Present continuous tense	Present continuous tense
3	Present perfect tense	Present perfect tense
4	Present perfect continuous tense	No Passive form
5	Past simple tense	Past simple tense
6	Past continuous tense	Past continuous tense
7	Past perfect tense	Past perfect tense
8	Past perfect continuous tense	No passive voice
9	Future simple tense	Future simple tense
10	Future continuous tense	No passive voice
11	Future perfect tense	Future perfect tense
12	Future perfect continuous tense	No passive voice



Thank you

