**INFO SHEET #5: Voices of Verb**

**Competency**

**MELC:** **EN7G-III-c-2**

Use the passive and active voice meaningfully in varied contexts.

**Objectives**

After the end of the lessons, the learners are expected to be able to:

1. Identify the subject, direct object, and indirect object in the sentence;
2. differentiate active from passive voice;
3. transpose active voice to passive voice and vice versa; and
4. express their thoughts and reflections about the topic using active and passive voice.

**Key Information**

**SENTENCE PATTERNS**

**Sentence** contains a subject and a verb and expresses a complete thought. It is the largest grammatical unit in the English which refers to a group of words that begins with a capital letter and ends with any of these three punctuation marks: the period or full stop, the exclamation mark, and the question mark.

**Subject**

* It tells what the sentence is about.
* It is the topic of the sentence (“What is a Sentence?” n.d.).
* This is usually found at or near the beginning of a sentence. Most subjects are nouns or pronouns.

In the following examples, each subject is underlined.

1. Computer generates data and handles millions of problems in a few seconds.

2. Mr. Jose purchases new welding machines.

3. She obtains the highest score in class.

In a sentence, the subject and verb may be followed by an object. An **object** is a noun or pronoun that gives meaning to the subject and verb of the sentence. Not all sentences contain objects, but some may contain one or more. There are two kinds of objects within a sentence: **direct** and **indirect** **objects**.

1. A **direct object** is a noun or pronoun that receives the action of a verb.

Daniel repairs **computers**. (Direct object)

Try this technique when determining the location of the direct object in the above sentence:

1) First locate the subject and verb in the sentence. The subject in the above sentence is “Daniel” and the verb is “repairs.”

2) Now ask yourself the questions *What? or Whom?* about the verb “repairs.”

3) *What does the subject,* ***Daniel****, repair*? Daniel repairs computers.

1. An indirect object is the noun or pronoun for whom the action is done. The indirect object can be located between the action verb and the direct object within a sentence.

Daniel gave me a computer. (Indirect object)

1) First locate the subject *(Daniel)* and the verb *(gave).*

2) Now ask yourself the questions *To Whom? To What? For Whom? or For What?* about

the subject and verb.

3) *To whom does the subject,* ***Daniel****, give a computer?* Daniel gave me a computer.

Ref

Re **VOICES OF VERB**

The voice of an action verb indicates whether the subject performs or receives the action. There are two types of voice: **ACTIVE VOICE** and **PASSIVE VOICE**.

**Active Voice**

When the subject does or “**acts upon**” the verb, the sentence is said to be in the **active voice**.

*Formula: Subject (doer of the action) + Verb + Object*

***Example 1*** *– Gizelle sings a song.*

Gizelle, the subject is the doer of the action, sings and song is the direct object. Here, the action of singing is being done by the subject i.e. Gizelle.

***Example 2*** *– The puppy chewed the shoe.*

This time, the puppy is the doer of the action, chewed, and shoe is the direct object. Here, the action of chewing was done by the subject i.e. puppy.

**Passive Voice**

When the subject **receives the action of the verb**, the sentence is said to be in the **passive voice**.

*Formula: Subject (receiver of the action) + Verb Phrase (be + past participle form of the verb) + object*

***Example 1*** *– A song is sung by Gizelle.*

The song, which is the receiver of the action, now becomes the subject of the sentence while Gizelle, doer of the action, becomes the object of the sentence.

***Example 2*** *– The shoe was chewed by the puppy.*

The shoe, which is the receiver of the action, becomes the subject of the sentence. The puppy is the one who did the action of chewing and shoe is the entity on whom action has been done.

Below is a diagram for a better understanding of the difference of active and passive voice.



**General rules of converting active voice to passive voice:**

Active voice focuses on the person who does the action that means the subject performs the action.

1. In active voice, the doer of the action or subject becomes the receiver which is now part of the predicate in the passive voice.
2. Use is/ am/ are/ was/ were/ been/ being + past participle according to the tense.
3. Put ‘by’ before the direct object in the passive voice.

Re To change a sentence from active to passive voice, do the following:

1. Place the receiver of the action, rice, as a subject.



1. Place the doer of the action, Hernan,as the predicate of the sentence in passive voice and usethe preposition “by”.



1. The passive verb is formed with “be verb” (auxiliary) plus the main verb.



**General rules of converting from passive voice to active voice**

The passive voice focuses on the receiver or the result of the action; thus, the subject receives the action.

1. In active voice, the receiver in the passive voice becomes the doer of the action or part of the subject.
2. Remove the preposition ‘by’.

To change a passive voice sentence into an active voice sentence, simply reverse the steps shown above.

1. The subject (rice) in passive voice becomes the object in active voice.



1. Change the auxiliary verb be and replace it with the main verb to emphasize the doer of the action.



1. Place the receiver of the sentence into the doer slot.



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ReRemember! Not all sentences can be changed to the passive voice. Only an active voice of the sentence with a direct object can be changed passive. For example: “Tarsiers live in the rainforests.” cannot be changed to passive voice because the sentence does not have a direct object. Another example is, ‘She is dancing.” cannot be changed as well to passive voice because the sentence does not have a clear known object. Finally, “He died in 2005.” has no known object thus, cannot be converted into passive voice.

References:

English Grade 7, PIVOT IV-A Learner’s Material, Quarter 1, First Edition, 2020, pg.3.

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**Proposed Performance Tasks**

**2 PICS, 1 SENTENCE**

With their groupmates, the learners will formulate sentences in active and passive voice using the given sets of pictures provided by the teacher.