

### Steps to success: Active and Passive Sentences

A sentence is written in <b>active voice</b> when the <b>subject</b> of the sentence performs the action in the sentence.	A sentence is written in <b>passive voice</b> when the <b>subject</b> of the sentence has an action done to it by <b>someone or something else</b> .
e.g. The <b>girl</b> was <b>bathing</b> the <b>dog</b>	e.g. The <b>dog</b> was <b>being bathed</b> by the <b>girl</b> .

#### Task One

Read each of these sentences and then write whether it is in **active (A)** or **passive (P)** voice. (*Hint: Look for the person who is carrying out the action*).

1. The crocodile ate the water hog.
2. The rainforest was painted by Bob.
3. The caiman opened its mouth.
4. The drill was being used by the workmen in the forest.
5. The tree was cut down by the heartless deforesters.
6. James climbed to the canopy with his climbing gear.
7. The spider monkey jumped off of one tree to another.
8. She was watching the birds high up above the canopy.

#### Task Two

Read each of these sentences and then write whether it is in **active (A)** or **passive (P)** voice. (*Hint: Look for the person who is carrying out the action*).

1. The axe was used to chop down the tree.
2. The tree was cut down.
3. The monkey couldn't see his friend.
4. The caiman picked up the water hog.
5. The egg was laid by the bird.
6. The spider monkey found her baby.
7. The caiman chased after the pink river dolphin. **\*\*\*Think carefully\*\*\***
8. The tree was killed. **\*\*\*Think carefully\*\*\***
9. The forest had been lost. **\*\*\*Think carefully\*\*\***
10. The forest was given a second chance. **\*\*\*Think carefully\*\*\***

### Task Three

These are all written in **passive** voice. Change each sentence into **active** voice.

1. The tree was cut down by the men.
2. The forest was left alone by the villagers.
3. A million trees had been cut down by the logging company.
4. The caiman had been driven into the water by a hungry jaguar.
5. The logging company had been reported. *\*\*\*Think carefully\*\*\**

### Task Four

These are all written in **active** voice. Change each sentence into **passive** voice.

1. An axe smashed through the trunk.
2. The boys pushed the tree over.
3. The loggers climbed the ladder.
4. The pink river dolphin nudged the caiman.
5. The bush baby mother fed her baby at Midnight.
6. The monkey told the gorilla a joke. *\*\*\*Think carefully\*\*\**

## Answers

### Task One

Read each of these sentences and then write whether it is in **active (A)** or **passive (P)** voice. (*Hint: Look for the person who is carrying out the action*).

1. The crocodile ate the water hog. **A**
2. The rainforest was painted by Bob. **P**
3. The caiman opened it's mouth. **A**
4. The drill was being used by the workmen in the forest. **P**
5. The tree was cut down by the heartless deforesters. **P**
6. James climbed to the canopy with his climbing gear. **A**
7. The spider monkey jumped off of one tree to another. **A**
8. She was watching the birds high up above the canopy. **A**

### Task Two

Read each of these sentences and then write whether it is in **active (A)** or **passive (P)** voice. (*Hint: Look for the person who is carrying out the action*).

1. The axe was used to chop down the tree. **P**
2. The tree was cut down. **P**
3. The monkey couldn't see his friend. **A**
4. The caiman picked up the water hog. **A**
5. The egg was laid by the bird. **P**
6. The spider monkey found her baby. **A**
7. The caiman chased after the pink river dolphin. *\*\*\*Think carefully about this one\*\*\** **A**
8. The tree was killed. *\*\*\*Think carefully about this one\*\*\** **P**
9. The forest had been lost. *\*\*\*Think carefully about this one\*\*\** **P**
10. The forest was given a second chance. *\*\*\*Think carefully about this one\*\*\** **P**

### Task Three

These are all written in **passive** voice. Change each sentence into **active** voice.

1. The tree was cut down by the men. **(The men cut down the tree.)**
2. The forest was left alone by the villagers. **(The villagers left the forest alone.)**
3. A million trees had been cut down by the logging company. **(The logging company cut down a million trees.)**
4. The caiman had been driven into the water by a hungry jaguar. **(The hungry jaguar drove the caiman into the water.)**

5. The logging company had been reported. **(Someone reported the logging company.)**

#### **Task Four**

These are all written in **active** voice. **Change** each sentence into **passive** voice.

1. The bush baby mother fed her baby at Midnight. **(At midnight, the baby was fed by the bush baby mother.)**
2. An axe smashed through the trunk. **(The trunk was smashed by an axe.)**
3. The boys pushed the tree over. **(The tree was pushed over by the boys.)**
4. The loggers climbed the ladder. **(The ladder was climbed by the loggers.)**
5. The pink river dolphin nudged the caiman. **(The caiman was nudged by the pink river dolphin.)**
6. The monkey told the gorilla a joke. **(A joke was told to the gorilla by the monkey.)**