

4.3 Introduction to Passive Voice

Subject – **Verb** – **Object** is called **active voice**.

However, sometimes you can say **Object** - **Verb** - **Subject**. This is called the **passive voice**.

To use the **passive voice**, you say:

Object + [Be Verb + Past Participle] + **by** + **Subject**



Active Voice: The dog bit the cat.

Passive Voice: The cat was bitten by the dog.

Active Voice: John wrote this novel.

Passive Voice: This novel was written by John.

Active Voice: Marie told me to come to work.

Passive Voice: I was told by Marie to come to work.

*Remember: the **be verbs** are **am, is, are, was, and were**.

The passive voice is usually past tense, so we usually use **was or **were**.



These sentences are in the active voice. Rewrite them using the passive voice.

1. The dog ate the food. _____
2. The car hit John. _____
3. Jenny wrote the letter. _____
4. Julie answered the question. _____
5. That boy stole the money. _____
6. Many children took the test. _____
7. Ana found my wallet. _____

