


# Changing Passive Voice to Active Voice #1

In grammar, **voice** communicates whether the subject of a clause performs or receives the verb's action.

<p>If a sentence is written in <b>active voice</b>, the subject <i>performs</i> the action of the verb.</p>	<p><u>Millions of people</u> <b>watched</b> the baking show.  <u>Subject</u> + <b>verb performed by the subject</b> + optional object</p>	
<p>If a sentence is written in <b>passive voice</b>, the subject <i>receives</i> the verb's action.</p>	<p><u>The baking show</u> <b>was watched</b> by millions of people.  <u>Subject</u> + form of <i>to be</i> + <b>past participle of verb</b> + prepositional phrase</p>	

Though exceptions exist, it is best to use active voice in formal writing.

**Rewrite the following sentences to use active voice instead of passive voice.**

1. **PASSIVE:** My sister, Hadley, is confused by the instructions for the banana bread recipe.

**ACTIVE:** The instructions for the banana bread recipe confused my sister, Hadley.

2. **PASSIVE:** All apartment buildings are inspected by the city's health department.

**ACTIVE:** \_\_\_\_\_

3. **PASSIVE:** The first powered flight was completed by the Wright brothers in 1903.

**ACTIVE:** \_\_\_\_\_

4. **PASSIVE:** The log cabins are rented out by our scout group every summer.

**ACTIVE:** \_\_\_\_\_

5. **PASSIVE:** The actors' outfits will all be designed by our lead costume designer.

**ACTIVE:** \_\_\_\_\_

6. **PASSIVE:** Penicillin, one of the first antibiotics, was discovered by Alexander Fleming.

**ACTIVE:** \_\_\_\_\_

7. **PASSIVE:** The entire plate of tamales was gobbled up by Aiden and his friends.

**ACTIVE:** \_\_\_\_\_