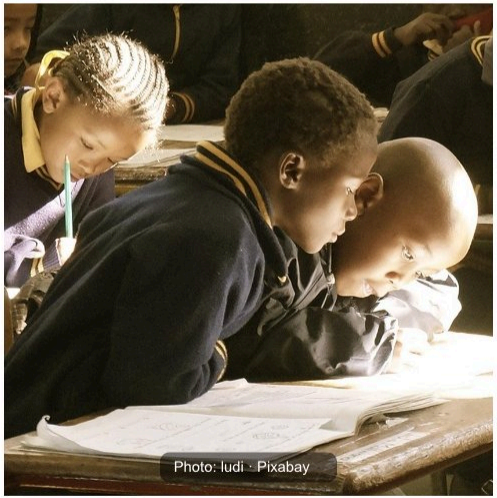
WHO DID IT?

Using passive verbs to shift the spotlight





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WHAT COULD THIS BE?

LOOK CLOSELY. WHAT HAPPENED HERE, AND WHO DID IT?





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BIG IDEA

PASSIVE MOVES THE SPOTLIGHT FROM THE DOER TO WHAT HAPPENED.



Photo: onkelglocke · Pixabay



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ACTIVE VS PASSIVE

- Active: subject does the action.
- Passive: subject has action done to it.
- be + past participle: verb form like broken.



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THINK, PAIR, SHARE

WHICH HIDES THE DOER: A STUDENT BROKE THE WINDOW OR THE WINDOW WAS BROKEN?



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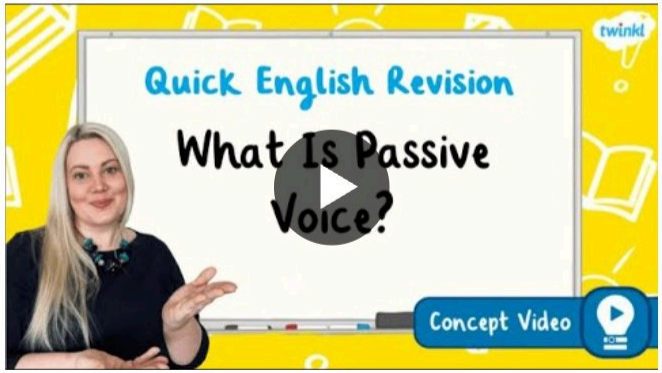
WATCH: SHIFTING THE FOCUS



▶ 0:00 – 4:44

- Listen for which word moves to the front.



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DID YOU KNOW?

'GLASS IS CLASSIFIED AS A SOLID' IS PASSIVE.

Science writing puts glass first because the material matters more than who classifies it.



Photo: garten-gg · Pixabay



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SING ALONG: SPOT THE PASSIVE



▶ 0:00 – 2:55

- Clap when you hear was plus a past participle.



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YOUR TASK

REWRITE THREE ACTIVE SENTENCES AS PASSIVES, THEN CHOOSE WHICH VERSION WORKS BEST.

1. 1. Rewrite: a) The teacher collected the books. b) A student broke the greenhouse window. c) The class stirs sugar and hot water.
2. 2. Underline be + past participle in each passive.
3. 3. Discuss: when does hiding the doer help?

10 min

In pairs



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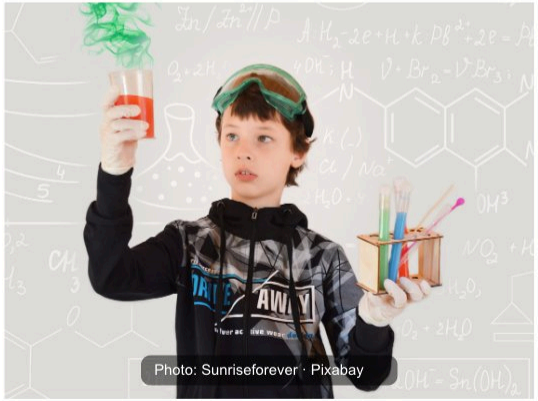
WHEN TO CHOOSE PASSIVE

1. Doer unknown or not important.
2. Focus on result, not who did it.
3. Sound formal and fair in reports.





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WHICH HEADLINE WINS?

POSTER FOR SCHOOL FAIR: WHICH HEADLINE PUTS CAKES IN THE SPOTLIGHT AND HIDES THE BAKERS?

A The class baked cakes - shows bakers

B Cakes were baked - shows cakes

C Cakes were baked by the class - shows both



Vote with your hands, then explain why.

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QUICK QUIZ

1. Which is passive: A student broke the window or The window was broken?
2. Make passive: The teacher collected the books.
3. Why use passive: Sugar and hot water are stirred?
4. What two parts make was broken?



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