

ACTIVE AND PASSIVE

You can use verbs in two different ways
These are often called *voices*.

1. The active voice

Look at this sentence.

Tom *caught* the ball.



Here Tom (subject) is doing the action of *catching*.
Caught is an active verb.

2. The passive voice

You can say the above sentence the other way round.

The ball *was caught* by Tom.

Here the ball (subject) is having the action done to it. *Was caught* is a passive verb.

ACTIVE

The mouse stole the
cheese.



PASSIVE

The cheese was stolen by
the mouse.

Jenny ate the ice cream.



The ice cream was eaten
by Jenny.

ACTIVE AND PASSIVE

Change Around

Can you change these sentences so that the verbs are in the *passive* voice?

1. The cat ate a huge, black spider.
2. Doris cleans the silver every fortnight.
3. Mum mowed the lawn early this morning.
4. The burglars hid the money under the bed.
5. Jo threw rubbish into the dustbin.
6. The groom brushed the horse.
7. The gardener watered the plants.
8. He ordered a taxi to take her home.