Inkleaf LEARNING

Name _____

Date _____

Year 6 English

The passive voice.

I can use the passive voice and explain why a writer might choose it.

In the **active** voice the doer comes first: The dog chased the cat. In the **passive**, the thing it happens to comes first: The cat was chased (by the dog).

1 Practise

Rewrite each sentence in the passive voice on the line beside it.

The chef cooked the meal. _____

Sam broke the window. _____

The wind blew the leaves. _____

Our class planted a tree. _____

2 Use It

Write a news sentence in the passive about a treasure that has been found. Leave out who found it.

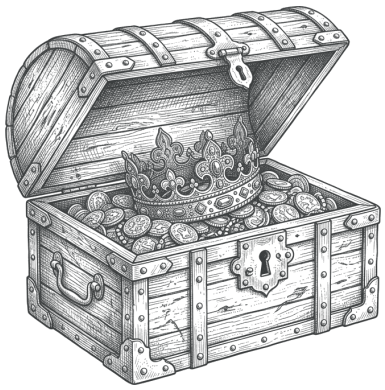
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3 Spot The Mistake

Tick the sentences that are in the passive.

- ☐ The letter was posted yesterday.
- ☐ Mia scored a goal.
- ☐ The prize was won by Leo.
- ☐ The bridge was built in 1890.



☆ Challenge

Why might someone say "**Mistakes were made**" instead of "**I made mistakes**"?
What does the passive let them do?

_____

_____

_____

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For grown-ups: how to help, and the answers.

How To Help

- Ask "who did it?". If the doer is missing or comes after "by", it is probably passive.
- News reports and science write-ups use the passive a lot: spot some together.
- Try turning a passive sentence back into an active one. It shows how the two fit together.

Practise

1. The meal was cooked by the chef.
2. The window was broken by Sam.
3. The leaves were blown by the wind.
4. A tree was planted by our class.

Use It

1. e.g. A golden crown was found in a field near the village.

Spot The Mistake

1. Passive: the letter, the prize and the bridge sentences. "Mia scored a goal" is active.

Challenge

1. The passive lets them leave out who did it, so nobody takes the blame.