

# Active or Passive Voice

## Active verbs

Verbs can have an **active** or **passive** voice. When a verb is **active**, the **subject** of the sentence is doing the action. For example:

The cat sat on the mat.

Here, cat is the **subject**, sat is the **active** verb and the mat is the object.

## Passive verbs

Contrast this with the **passive** voice of the verb:

The mat was sat on by the cat.

Here, the mat is the **subject** and is suffering the action of being sat on by the cat.

Complete the following table, inserting a tick showing whether the verb is **active** or **passive**.

Verb	Active	Passive
The school <b>arranged</b> a visit.		
A visit was <b>arranged</b> by the school.		
The dog <b>buried</b> the bone.		
The bone was <b>buried</b> by the dog.		
The man <b>painting</b> the wall.		
The wall was <b>painting</b> by the man.		
The ball was <b>thrown</b> at the window by the naughty girl.		
The naughty girl <b>threw</b> the ball at the window.		
You must not <b>run</b> across the road.		
You could get <b>run</b> over!		

# Active or Passive Voice - Answers

Verb	Active	Passive
The school <b>arranged</b> a visit.	✓	
A visit was <b>arranged</b> by the school.		✓
The dog <b>buried</b> the bone.	✓	
The bone was <b>buried</b> by the dog.		✓
The man <b>painting</b> the wall.	✓	
The wall was <b>painting</b> by the man.		✓
The ball was <b>thrown</b> at the window by the naughty girl.		✓
The naughty girl <b>threw</b> the ball at the window.	✓	
You must not <b>run</b> across the road.	✓	
You could get <b>run</b> over!		✓