

Cornell Motes

Active and Passive Voice Usage

Today's Standard

8.L.1b - Form and use verbs in the active and passive voice.

Cues	Notes
What is active voice?	Active voice: The subject performs the action (e.g., The cat chased the mouse).
What is passive voice?	
	Passive voice: The action is performed on the subject (e.g., The mouse was
When should you use passive voice?	chased by the cat).
	Use passive voice in scientific writing, when the doer is unknown, or when
How do you change a sentence from active to passive voice?	the action is more important than the doer.
	To change from active to passive: Move the object to the subject position,
What are common misconceptions about passive	use a form of 'to be', and add the past participle of the verb.
voice?	Misconceptions: Passive voice is not always wrong; it's not the same as past tense.

Summary

Active voice is when the subject performs the action, while passive voice is when the action is performed on the subject. Understanding when and how to use both can improve writing clarity and effectiveness.