

Parent Guide to the

Verb Moods and Voices

Today's Standard

8.L.3a - Use verbs in the active and passive voice and in the conditional and subjunctive mood to achieve particular effects (e.g., emphasizing the actor or the action; expressing uncertainty or describing a state contrary to fact).

Real-World Applications for this Standard

Writing a persuasive essay emphasizing the actor's actions.; Creating a fictional story with a character in a hypothetical situation.; Analyzing historical speeches for use of active and passive voice.; Writing a scientific report using passive voice to focus on the experiment.

Today I Learned

Today, we learned about using verbs in different ways to make writing more interesting. We talked about active and passive voice and how to use verbs to show different moods like wishes or possibilities.

Common Stumbling Blocks

Sometimes, kids think that the passive voice is wrong, but it's not. It can be useful in some types of writing. Another common mistake is mixing up conditional and subjunctive moods. Conditional talks about 'if' situations, and subjunctive talks about wishes or things that aren't real.

Quiz Me

- What is the active voice?
- What is the passive voice?
- What does the conditional mood show?
- What does the subjunctive mood show?
- Can the passive voice be useful?

Help Me

Using different verb forms can make writing clearer and more interesting. For example, scientists often use passive voice to focus on the experiment, not the person doing it. Writers use different moods to show wishes or possibilities, making their stories more engaging.