

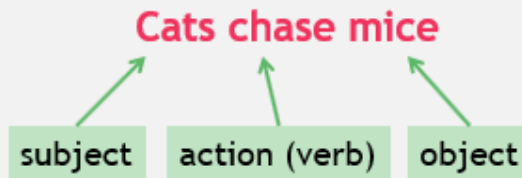
ACTIVE & PASSIVE VOICE

A verb is said to be in **active voice** when the subject performs the verb.

A verb is said to be in the **passive voice** when its subject does not perform the action of the verb. In fact, the action is performed on the subject.

Active

When a sentence is written in the **active voice**, the **subject** of the sentence is the performer (the 'doer') of an action:

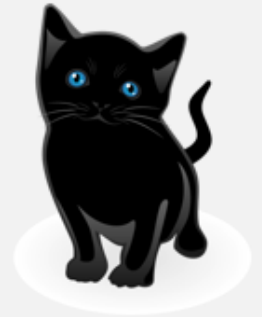
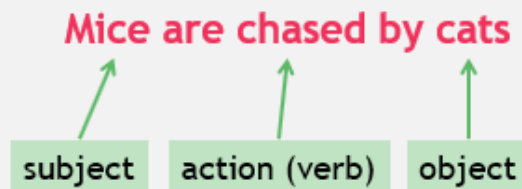


The **object** of the sentence is the 'receiver' of the action.

Here, the focus of the sentence is the cats.

Passive

When a sentence is written in the **passive voice**, the **receiver** of the action becomes the subject.



The **performer** (the 'doer') of the action becomes the object.

Here, the focus of the sentence is the mice.



Active Mrs. Carroll baked the cake.
The children broke the window.

Passive The cake was baked **by** Mrs. Carroll.
The window was broken. **OR**
The window was broken **by** the children.
(The preposition '**by**' is often a hint.)