

*Are you ready to be aggressive about the passive? Find out by dragging & dropping these, correctly:*  
1.

ACTIVE SENTENCE WORD ORDER:

\_\_\_\_\_

DRAG & DROP THESE:



PASSIVE SENTENCE WORD ORDER:

\_\_\_\_\_



***Do this before going ahead!***

***Let's get a few ideas straight, first...*** CLICK on the pulldown menus, & CHOOSE the right ones...

2. ... for an active sentence.: .....

3. ... for a passive sentence.: .....

4. a) Try one more ACTIVE. Drag and drop these onto the right lines (one extra!):

bricks     In     it     by     built     1986     John     with



..... EXTRA: .....

b) Now try dragging and dropping these to create a PASSIVE sentence (one extra!):

bricks     In     it     does     by     built     1986     John     with     was

..... EXTRA: .....

5. What happens to the verb in the passive? CLICK & CHOOSE: .....

6. TICK the correct informal passive alternative for *to be* for actions that don't involve a long period of time, and/or the *subject* doesn't plan or do: ..... to go | ..... to get | ..... to do

7. Which is the right one? CLICK and CHOOSE: .....

8. In passive sentences, what happens to subjects of active sentences? CLICK and CHOOSE:

.....

9. TICK the correct answer: It is obligatory to indicate the doer in a passive sentence. .... TRUE | ..... FALSE

10. PASSIVE: DRAG and DROP these onto the correct lines. Watch out! There are extras and *at least* one sentence remains an active sentence. (N.B., *DROP* lines want their content dropped on their far left.)

a) employees    Red    given    the    Lucy    to    were    telephones    EXTRA: .....

.....



b) by    stones    policemen    James'    thrown    at    hooligans    were    Some    about    EXTRA: .....

.....

c) late    her    Cheryl    with    was    always    briefcase    arrived    open    EXTRA: .....

.....



d) called    Archer's    the    name    by    was    Mr.    clerk    down    EXTRA: .....

.....



e) wanted    manager    to    Everyone    was    be    the    Donna.    EXTRA: .....

.....



11. THE TRAP. Yes, there's a little trap in the passive. It's called the *statal passive*. Maybe you don't realize it, but you've been using it since almost your first English lessons! It LOOKS like a passive because it uses the verb *to be* & a past participle, BUT that past participle is NOT used as a verb. What is it? TICK:



..... an adverb | ..... an adjective describing a *state of being* | ..... an adjective describing a *state of business*

12. FIGURING OUT THE TRAP. TICK the correct answer:



- a. Mike's store was closed by the police, yesterday. "closed" is ..... STATAL PASSIVE | ..... PASSIVE
- b. Mike's store by the police was closed, yesterday. "closed" is ..... STATAL PASSIVE | ..... PASSIVE



12. While it's true that it's better to avoid the passive, there are times when it's desirable, and even necessary. When? TICK the right answer/s:

- a. .... to emphasize the action    b. .... to be polite    c. .... for lively writing
- d. .... to put the important new info at the end for emphasis    e. .... to be mean
- f. .... to be evasive about responsibility    g. .... to force talking about the doer

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