Name_____

Active/Passive Voice

Date_____



- In active voice sentences the subject *does* the action.
  Example: Liz played the piano.
- In passive voice sentences the subject *receives* the action.
  Example: The piano was played by Liz.
  - The sentence that uses the active voice is stronger, uses fewer words, and clearly shows who performs the action.
  - The sentence that uses the passive voice is weaker and less direct. It is, however, not incorrect to use the passive voice.
- Sometimes the doer of the action is omitted in passive voice sentences.
  Example: The piano was played.

Directions: Decide whether the following sentences are written in the active or passive voice. Then write the doer of the action on the line to the right. If the doer is unknown, write a question mark (?).

Example: We saw the game at the stadium. (active) / passive _____we_____

1) Thomas feeds his dog. active / passive _____
2) The dog is fed by Thomas. active / passive _____
3) The family went to the beach. active / passive _____
4) The letter was written by Marshall. active / passive _____
5) The game had been won by the blue team. active / passive _____
6) The problem was solved. active / passive _____
7) The stunt man risked his life. active / passive _____
8) The fire was extinguished. active / passive _____
9) The car was being cleaned by its owner. active / passive _____
10) It gets cold here during the winter. active / passive _____

Directions: Rewrite the *passive* voice sentences as *active* voice sentences.

Passive: The dog was hit by the car.

Active: _____

Passive: The house will be built by the construction crew in five months.

Active: _____

Directions: Rewrite the *active* voice sentences as *passive* voice sentences.

Active: Julie answered the question.

Passive: _____

Active: The dolphins have learned many tricks.

Passive: _____

Directions: Write one sentence using the active voice, and one using the passive voice.

Active: _____

Passive: _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS