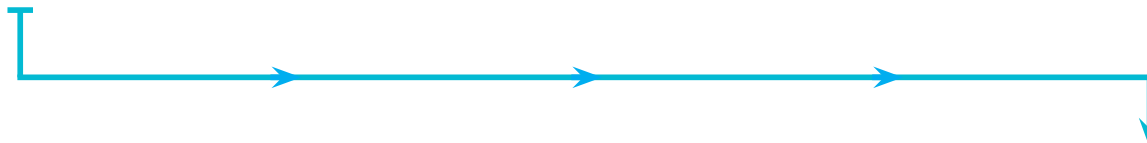


# ACTIVE vs PASSIVE

**EVERY** sentence is in either active or passive voice. In **active voice** the **subject** performs the **action**. In **passive voice** the **object** performs the **action**.

subject                      verb                      object  
Commandos rescue teenagers (active voice)  
performer (of action)



performer (of action)  
Teenagers were rescued by commandos (passive voice)  
subject                      verb                      object

Passive voice is disliked because (a) the performer of the action is in the middle or end of the sentence, (b) more words are used, and (c) the performer is sometimes left off, which leaves the reader guessing. . .

Teenagers were rescued [by] Who knows ...? Prince Harry, Principal Skinner, Adam Spencer, the Canadian Mounties, Pink, Matt Damon or Carrie Bickmore?