**Active vs. Passive Voice**

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| **Active Voice** | **Passive Voice** |
| When the subject of a sentence is doing the verb, as in “Kat kicked the soccer ball.”  Active voice is used for most writing that is non-scientific because it makes writing more clear and less wordy for readers. | When the subject of the sentence is acted upon by the verb, as in “The soccer ball was kicked by Kat.”  Passive voice, unless used for a specific purpose, is typically avoided in non-scientific writing. |
| **Examples**  The dispatcher is notifying the firemen about the smoke on Sunset Boulevard. | **Examples**  The firemen are being notified about the smoke on Sunset Boulevard. |
| Over half of the students failed the entrance exam. | The entrance exam was failed by over half the students. |
| She slammed on the brakes when the light turned red. | The brakes were slammed on by her when the light turned red. |
| The councilmen are revisiting the case tomorrow. | The case is being revisited by the councilmen tomorrow. |

**Practice: Label the sentences A (Active) or P (Passive).**

1. The network is being rerouted by the technicians. \_\_\_\_
2. The manuscript is written by the screenwriters. \_\_\_\_
3. Kathleen listened to her music on the way to the game. \_\_\_\_
4. I have completed my homework. \_\_\_\_
5. My car is being repaired by the mechanic. \_\_\_\_
6. The bill is being considered by the committee. \_\_\_\_
7. The bills were paid on time. \_\_\_\_
8. She climbed the most difficult route out of the entire group. \_\_\_\_
9. The students worked diligently to complete their assignments. \_\_\_\_
10. The textbook was read aloud by the teacher to the students. \_\_\_\_