

Activity Type

Grammar and Writing Game: rewriting sentences, changing verb forms, true or false, guessing (pair work)

Focus

Active vs. passive voice

Aim

To practice the active and passive voice.

Preparation

Make one copy of the worksheet for each student.

Level

Intermediate (B1)

Time

20 minutes

Introduction

In this active vs. passive voice game, students practice rewriting statements from active to passive voice or vice versa.

Procedure

Give each student a copy of the worksheet.

First, students rewrite trivia statements from active to passive voice or vice versa.

Next, divide the students into pairs.

Students then discuss which statements they think are true and false and write their guesses in the 'True or false' column.

Afterwards, elicit the correct answers from the class.

Answer key

1. True: "Romeo and Juliet" was written by Shakespeare in 1595.
2. False: The hit song "I Will Always Love You" was first sung by Dolly Parton (not Whitney Houston).
3. False: Alexander Graham Bell (not Thomas Edison) invented the telephone.
4. False: France (not England) gave the Statue of Liberty to the USA.
5. True: "Happy Birthday to You" was written by two sisters in 1893.
6. True: Marie Curie won the Nobel prizes for chemistry and physics.
7. True: The first ever computer code was written by Ada Lovelace.
8. False: Pasta was introduced to Italy by the Arabs (not Marco Polo).
9. False: Leonardo da Vinci (not Pablo Picasso) painted the world's most expensive painting.
10. True: The earliest form of Wi-Fi was invented by a famous Hollywood actress (Hedy Lamarr).

Pairs score one point for each correct guess.

If a pair thinks a statement is false, ask them to guess the right person or people for an extra point.

The pair with the most points at the end of the game wins.

A. The trivia statements below are written in the active or passive voice. Rewrite them by changing the active sentences into the passive or vice versa.

Facts	T / F
1. Active: Shakespeare wrote "Romeo and Juliet" in 1595.	
2. Active: Whitney Houston first sang the hit song "I Will Always Love You".	
3. Passive: The telephone was invented by Thomas Edison.	
4. Passive: The Statue of Liberty was given to the USA by England.	
5. Active: Two sisters wrote "Happy Birthday to You" in 1893.	
6. Passive: The Nobel prizes for chemistry and physics were won by Marie Curie.	
7. Active: Ada Lovelace wrote the first ever computer code.	
8. Active: Marco Polo introduced pasta to Italy.	
9. Passive: The world's most expensive painting was painted by Pablo Picasso.	
10. Active: A famous Hollywood actress invented the earliest form of Wi-Fi.	

B. In pairs, discuss and then guess which statements are true and which are false.