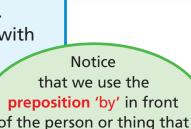
# **PASSIVE AND ACTIVE VOICE**

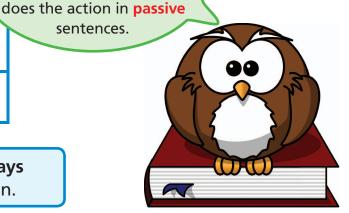
### **Active or passive?**

I'm very active. My friend is passive – he likes to lie on the sofa all day. But what's that got to do with sentences?

Sentences in the ACTIVE VOICE start with the people or things doing the action. Sentences in the PASSIVE VOICE start with the people or things having the action done to them.



Active	Passive
This machine cuts the wood.	The wood is cut by this machine.
The dog ate my homework.	My homework was eaten by the dog.





In PASSIVE SENTENCES, you don't always have to say who or what did the action.

That might be because it doesn't matter:

The cathedral was built six hundred years ago.

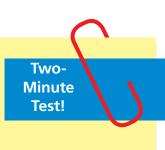
Or it might be because you would prefer not to say:

All the cake's been eaten.



Write 'A' for active voice or 'P' for passive voice next to each of these sentences

- a) We were taken to our seats.
- b) Luke fell off his bike.
- c) All the men were tall.
- d) The meal was cooked by a famous chef. ......



# **VERBS AT A GLANCE**

Read this beginning of a frightening tale. Use the highlights to help you revise your verbs and tenses!



[1] present progressive

[3] present perfect

[5] past perfect

[4] simple past

[7] modal form

[1] present progressive

I am writing [1] this down for you, my best friend, in case anything happens to me. As you know [2], I have always wanted [3] to visit the old ruins. Today I did. [4] Once it had been [5] home to Sir Terri Fying and his wife Lady Sue Pernatural. But after they had died [5] in mysterious circumstances, people started seeing a headless ghost chasing another one around the castle walls.

Anyway, yesterday it was [4] a cold, damp night. I took out [4] my torch, and pushed [4] open the rusty, iron door. All around the wind was howling [6] and bats were swooping [6] down just above my head. I am [2] usually quite a brave person as you know, but this made me quiver and quake. I dislike [2] bats intensely.

Suddenly, my torch went out. I should have [7] checked the batteries! They were dead. Even worse, I could see [7] a strange figure. It was floating down the castle steps!

My throat was grabbed by [8] an unknown, icy hand. Then a deep, deathly voice spoke.

'What are you doing [1] here, boy?

'N-n-nothing,' I gasped. I began to feel faint. Everything went dark.

Next thing I knew, I was lying on my bed. Safe – for now. But I am staying alert.

Underline or circle any other uses of:

- a) the present simple
- b) the past simple
- c) the past progressive
- d) the present progressive

Continue the story in a spooky way.

Start: It's now a week later. You won't believe what just happened ...

[2] simple present

[4] simple past

[6] past progressive

[2] simple present

[8] passive form



# **SATs PRACTICE**

Do you think you've triumphed over tenses? Know your past simple from the present progressive? Now's your chance to try out some SATs-style questions!

### How to do it Look at this SATs-style question: This refers to the This tells you what to do first column These are the two Tick one box in each row to show if the sentence is in the tenses you must choose from. present progressive or the past progressive. past tense of 'to be' (was) and 'ing' verb tells you this is the past progressive form Sentence Present Past progressive progressive Mandy was dancing the salsa at the school talent show. Mandy's dance moves are getting better all the time. present tense of Mandy is aiming to be a professional

# Your Turn: SATs-style practice Try answering these questions. Which of these sentences is in the present perfect tense? Tick one. I have entered the talent show. They had entered the talent show. They are entering the talent show. They were entering the talent show.

'to be'

dancer. 🔨

2	② Draw a line to match the sentence parts.		
	Part 1	Part 2	
	We knocked at the door and	play video games.	
	My cousins came round and we	go inside.	
	You should take off your shoes and	played video games.	
	Most weekends I go to my friend's and we	went inside.	
Rewrite the sentence below so that it is in the active voice.  Remember to punctuate your sentence correctly.			
	The poem was written by my friend.		
4	Underline the <b>modal verb</b> in each sent	tence below.	
	Reece won't come out of his bedroom.		
	I think I might have broken my leg.		
	You really shouldn't be so rude to your parents.		
	She didn't think she could walk that far.		