

Passive Voice

In the active voice, the **subject performs** the action of the verb.

ex. subject act. verb dir. obj.
 Marcus praises his father. In this sentence “Marcus” is performing the action of the verb.
 He is the **agent** or **doer** of the action.

In the passive voice, the **subject receives** the action of the verb.

ex. subject pass. verb agent
 Marcus is praised by his father. In this sentence “Marcus” is not performing the action of the verb. He is the subject of the verb but he is not the **agent** or **doer** of the action. The father is the **agent** of the verb.

Sometimes the agent is left out of a passive sentence.

ex. Marcus is praised.

Although “Marcus” is the subject in both sentences above, **each sentence says something completely different** because the first sentence contains an active verb and the second sentence contains a passive verb.

We can change an active verb into a passive verb and still keep the same meaning, but we must change the **subject into an agent** and the **direct object into the subject**.

ex. subject act. verb dir. obj. subject pass. verb agent
 Marcus praises his father. The father is praised by Marcus.

Now, these two sentences say the same thing.

We can also change a passive verb into an active verb by changing the **subject into the direct object** the **agent into the subject**.

ex. subject pass. verb agent subject act. verb dir. obj.
 Marcus is praised by his father. The father praises Marcus.

Identify the verb in the following sentence as **active** or **passive**.

1. Early in the morning, the girls walked into town. _____
2. The girls were walking into town with their brothers. _____
3. The sailor was arrested by the soldiers. _____
4. Claudia walked by her brother and into the house. _____
5. My father was not informed of the change in the law. _____
6. She is terrified by the thought of leaving home. _____

Change the following active sentences into passive sentences with the same meaning.

1. Quintus and Marcus planned the meeting well. _____
2. The girl occupies the front seat of the car. _____
3. Gaius will not sell the slave cheaply. _____
4. They won't give the book to Marcus. _____

Change the following passive sentences into active sentences with the same meaning.

1. Twelve labors were completed by Hercules. _____
2. Rome was founded by Romulus and Remus. _____
3. Troy was destroyed by the Greeks. _____
4. He is being abandoned by his parents. _____

We form **passive verbs** in Latin in the present system by using **passive personal endings** instead of the **active personal endings**.

Active Personal Endings

-ō, -m -mus
-s -tis
-t -nt

Passive Personal Endings

-or, r -mur
-ris (re) -minī
-tur -ntur

Conjugate and translate "servō, servāre, servāvī, servātum" in these passive tenses.

Present Passive

	<u>Singular</u>		<u>Plural</u>	
	Latin	English	Latin	English
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____

Imperfect Passive

	Latin	<u>Singular</u>	English	Latin	<u>Plural</u>	English
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Give the Latin for the following words.

we were being despised _____

I was being praised _____

you (pl) are given _____

it was being shouted _____

you are loving _____

they were being told _____

we were shouting _____

they are being increased _____