

# Active vs Passive

In the **active**, the doer is the subject: *Ana painted the house*. In the **passive**, the thing is the subject, and the doer moves to the end or disappears: *The house was painted (by Ana)*. Same action, different focus.

## ACTIVE · FOCUS ON THE DOER

Ana **painted** the house.

• IN FOCUS · DOER

Ana



ACTION

painted



THING

the house

## PASSIVE · FOCUS ON THE THING

The house **was painted** by Ana.

• IN FOCUS · THING

the house



ACTION

was painted



DOER

by Ana

## 1. Choose the right answer Circle a or b.

- The Mona Lisa \_\_\_\_\_ by Leonardo da Vinci.  
a) painted    b) was painted
- My brother \_\_\_\_\_ this cake.  
a) made    b) was made
- Thousands of emails \_\_\_\_\_ every second.  
a) send    b) are sent
- The police \_\_\_\_\_ two men last night.  
a) arrested    b) were arrested
- The winners \_\_\_\_\_ next week.  
a) will announce    b) will be announced

## 2. Correct the mistake

Each sentence has one mistake. Write the correct sentence.

1. The house painted by Ana.

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2. My bike was stole.

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3. It was happened yesterday.

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## 3. Your turn

Write two sentences about your own life: one with **Active** and one with **Passive**. Then explain the difference to a partner.

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### See the rule move

The full lesson, with more pictures, examples and a quiz that checks your answers, is free at [clarigram.app/compare/active-vs-passive](https://clarigram.app/compare/active-vs-passive)

# Active vs Passive

## 1. Choose the right answer

1. **b) was painted** The painting is the subject: passive.
2. **a) made** Your brother is the doer and the subject: active.
3. **b) are sent** Emails don't send anything: passive.
4. **a) arrested** The police are the doer: active.
5. **b) will be announced** The winners don't announce anything: passive.

## 2. Correct the mistake

1. **The house was painted by Ana.** The passive needs be: was painted.
2. **My bike was stolen.** The passive needs the past participle: stolen.
3. **It happened yesterday.** Happen has no object, so it has no passive.

## 3. Your turn

Answers will vary. Check that each sentence follows the rule on page 1, or paste them into Clarigram to have them checked.