

ACTIVE AND PASSIVE VOICE

- Every sentence must have a subject and a verb.
- Voice is the form of the verb that tells whether
- the subject **does** the action or **receives** the action.
- There are two types of voice: **active** and **passive**.

Active	A sentence is considered to be in active voice when the subject of the sentence
voice	performs the action.
subject action	
Example: Theresa swept the floor.	

	A sentence is considered to be in the passive voice when the subject of the
voice	sentence has an action done to it by someone or something.
	subject action

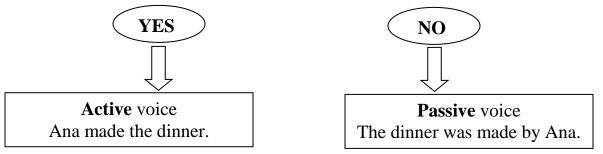
Example: The floor was swept by Theresa.

Writing in the **passive voice** is not as interesting to the reader as writing in the **active voice**. Passive voice raises questions about the authority of the author.

Do you want to sound weak or do you want to have a voice of authority? For example, would a police officer write in his report, "The gun was fired by the suspect," or "The suspect fired the gun,"?

Check for the Voice

- 1. Locate the **subject** of the sentence.
- 2. Locate the **verb** in the sentence.
- 3. Is the **subject** of the sentence doing the action?



You can identify passive sentences because the verb will always be a form of **be**: *is*, *are*, *was*, *were*, *am*, or *been*.