

## TWELFTH NIGHT: ACT 1 YEAR 5 AND YEAR 6 GRAMMAR EXERCISE: PASSIVE VERBS

You use **passive verbs** to affect the presentation of information in a sentence: when the **subject** of a sentence isn't doing something, the **verb** is passive.

**Subject** → Person or thing that does the action

**Object** → Person or things that the action is done to

**Verb** → An action, or state of being

When the **subject** of the sentence is performing the action a sentence is written in **active** voice.

When the subject of a sentence has something done to it by someone or something the sentence is written in the **passive** voice.

For example;

**Viola** asked everyone where Sebastian was. → **ACTIVE**  
(subject) (verb) (object)

Everyone was asked by **Viola** where Sebastian was. → **PASSIVE**  
(object) (verb). (subject)

Useful video:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwwp8mn/articles/zsx2b82>

**EXERCISE 1. READ EACH SENTENCE.  
WRITE NEXT TO IT WHETHER IT IS PASSIVE OR ACTIVE**

1. Duke Orsino sighed dramatically. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Dramatically, Duke Orsino sighed. \_\_\_\_\_
3. The musicians played romantic music \_\_\_\_\_
4. Romantic music was being played by the musicians. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Olivia was loved by Duke Orsino \_\_\_\_\_
6. Duke Orsino loved Olivia. \_\_\_\_\_
7. The crew said Sebastian could be alive. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Sebastian could be alive, said the crew. \_\_\_\_\_
9. The ship was battered by giant waves. \_\_\_\_\_
10. Giant waves battered the ship. \_\_\_\_\_
11. The storm caused the shipwreck. \_\_\_\_\_
12. The shipwreck was caused by the storm. \_\_\_\_\_

## EXERCISE 2: RE WRITE EACH SENTENCE IN THE PASSIVE VOICE

1. Olivia will stay indoors for seven years.

It is said Olivia will stay indoors for seven years.

2. Olivia's brother is dead .

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3. Orsino started planning the wedding.

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4. Duke Orsino loved Olivia.

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5. The captain helped Viola to her feet.

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6. Viola looked for Sebastian.

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**TEWLFTH NIGHT: ACT 1**  
**YEAR 5 AND YEAR 6**  
**GRAMMAR EXERCISE: PASSIVE VERBS**  
**ANSWERS**

**Exercise 1. Read each sentence.**

**Write next to it whether it is Passive or Active**

- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| 1. Duke Orsino sighed dramatically.                  | <u>ACTIVE</u>  |
| 2. Dramatically, Duke Orsino sighed.                 | <u>PASSIVE</u> |
| 3. The musicians played romantic music               | <u>ACTIVE</u>  |
| 4. Romantic music was being played by the musicians. | <u>PASSIVE</u> |
| 5. Duke Orsino loved Olivia.                         | <u>ACTIVE</u>  |
| 6. Olivia was loved by Duke Orsino                   | <u>PASSIVE</u> |
| 7. The crew said Sebastian could be alive.           | <u>PASSIVE</u> |
| 8. Sebastian could be alive, said the crew.          | <u>ACTIVE</u>  |
| 9. The ship was battered by giant waves.             | <u>PASSIVE</u> |
| 10. Giant waves battered the ship.                   | <u>ACTIVE</u>  |
| 11. The storm caused the shipwreck.                  | <u>ACTIVE</u>  |
| 12. The shipwreck was caused by the storm.           | <u>PASSIVE</u> |

**Exercise 2: Re write each sentence in the passive voice**

- Olivia will stay indoors for seven years.  
**It is said Olivia will stay indoors for seven years.**
- Olivia's brother is dead .  
**The brother of Olivia is dead.**
- Orsino started planning the wedding.  
**The wedding was planned by Orsino**
- Duke Orsino loved Olivia.  
**Olivia was loved by Duke Orsino**
- The captain helped Viola to her feet.  
**Viola was helped to her feet by the Captain.**
- Viola looked for Sebastian.  
**Sebastian was looked for by Viola**