



Ac i e Voice



Passive Voice

Passive voice refers to when a sentence is written with an **object** and **verb**, and may include a **subject** at the end of a sentence (although not required).

Example: The apple was **eat** [by **Jane**]

Object

Verb

Subject

Passive voice is usually used to draw attention to the **verb/action** and/or the **object** that the **verb** is acting on.

Although active voice is preferred in academic writing, the passive voice can be useful when used properly.

Active voice preferred

Active Voice: Jane Smith *id e* ~~the~~ extent to which the U.S. was contributing to global carbon dioxide emissions.

Passive Voice: The extent to which the U.S. was contributing to global carbon dioxide emissions was *id e* [~~by~~ Jane Smith]

Note: When using verbs such as 'discuss,' 'suggest' or 'explain,' it is typically better to use the active voice. These verbs almost always require the presence of a speaker, so this information becomes important.



Pa i e oice p efe ed

Active Voice: **We** e d

