

Active vs. Passive Voice

Active voice

- *Generally the subject comes first, followed by the verb
- *There is a clear subject performing an action

Examples:

Smedley broke the window.

The house loomed over the corner market.

I bought three new books.

Passive voice

- *Used mostly in historical and scientific writing
- *Typically the verb comes first, followed by a subject
- *The subject is often unclear or unknown

Examples:

The window was broken.

The money was given to the cashier by the travelers.

The cats were given their milk.