HAMLET : 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;

The guards told Horatio they had seen a ghost. **ACTIVE**

(subject) (verb) (object)

Horatio was told by the guards they had seen a ghost. **PASSIVE**

(object) (verb). (subject) Useful video:

https://[www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwwp8mn/articles/zsx2b82](http://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. The guards summoned Horatio.
2. Horatio was summoned by the guards.
3. Old Hamlet was killed after being bitten by a serpent.
4. A serpent killed Old Hamlet.
5. Horatio tells Hamlet he has seen the ghost of his father.
6. Hamlet is told by Horatio he has seen his father’s ghost.
7. Laertes warns Ophelia not to fall in love with Hamlet.
8. Ophelia is warned by Laertes not to fall in love with Hamlet.
9. Hamlet sees the ghost of his father on the battlements.
10. The ghost of Hamlet’s father is seen on the battlements.
11. The ghost tells Hamlet to seek revenge.
12. Hamlet is told to seek revenge by the ghost.

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ANSWERS

1. The guards summoned Horatio. ACTIVE
2. Horatio was summoned by the guards. PASSIVE
3. Old Hamlet was killed after being bitten by a serpent. PASSIVE
4. A serpent killed Old Hamlet. ACTIVE
5. Horatio tells Hamlet he has seen the ghost of his father. PASSIVE
6. Hamlet is told by Horatio he has seen his father’s ghost. ACTIVE
7. Laertes warns Ophelia not to fall in love with Hamlet. ACTIVE
8. Ophelia is warned by Laertes not to fall in love with Hamlet. PASSIVE
9. Hamlet sees the ghost of his father on the battlements. ACTIVE
10. The ghost of Hamlet’s father is seen on the battlements. PASSIVE
11. The ghost tells Hamlet to seek revenge. ACTIVE
12. Hamlet is told to seek revenge by the ghost. PASSIVE