

## Active and Passive Verbs

*Fill in the gaps as we work through the sheet in class.*

Most verb forms that you have seen so far are called ACTIVE. This is because the subject is active in carrying out the action of that verb.

(A) *matres liberos spectant.* = \_\_\_\_\_

In English and Latin, there is another type of verb called PASSIVE. The subject of a passive verb does not carry it out actively, but experiences it.

For instance, suppose that we did not know or didn't care about who was doing the watching, but only wanted to say that someone was watching the children. We could then say, in English:

(B) The children \_\_\_\_\_.

The subject in this sentence is \_\_\_\_\_.  
Because it is the subject it must be in the \_\_\_\_\_ case.

So in Latin we write  
\_\_\_\_\_ *spectantur.*

This is a passive verb in the present tense. It is (singular/plural) to agree with the subject. Underline the part of the verb that is different from the active equivalent.

If we did want to add in who was doing this verb (the agent) we would do so in the ablative with a(b), translated as "by" in English.

Now complete the full sentence describing the scenario in sentence A, but in a passive form:

(C) English: \_\_\_\_\_

Latin: \_\_\_\_\_

## Active and Passive Verbs

*Before looking in detail at the endings of Latin passive verbs, read these English sentences and convert them to passive, without changing what happens in each scenario, when and to whom.*

1. Romeo loves Juliet.

---

2. The sun warms the earth.

---

3. The crocodile ate Frederick.

---

4. I will bake a cake.

---

5. I was reading the book.

---

Now convert the following to active:

6. He was run over by a bus.

---

7. The Slytherin team will be beaten by Griffindor in the final.

---

Only verbs that usually have a direct object can be made passive. Other ones do not make sense. Which of the following could be converted to passive? Mark them yes or no:

8. We love chocolate.

9. I am going to London.

10. She has been very naughty.

*You are now ready to start filling in some tables of active and passive endings on the "Active, Passive and Deponent" worksheets.*