Year 6 English: Active and passive voice (Easy)

English · Grammar and punctuation
Level: Easy

Student: _____ Date: _____

Instructions
- There are 10 questions. Read each one carefully.
- Write your answers on this paper. Use the space under a question to work it out.
- A grown-up can read a question aloud — that's fine.
- The answers are at the end. Check them together when you have finished.

Questions

1. Which sentence is in the active voice?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** The report was written by Kai yesterday.

○ **B** Kai wrote the report yesterday.

○ **C** The report was written yesterday.

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2. Which sentence is in the active voice?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** The twins washed the car yesterday.

○ **B** The car was washed yesterday.

○ **C** The car was washed by the twins yesterday.

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3. Choose the word that fits the gap.

Circle one answer.

The car is _____ by the twins every week.

○ **A** washed ○ **B** wash ○ **C** washing

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4. Choose the word that fits the gap.

Circle one answer.

The loaves _____ baked by the bakers each term.

○ **A** is ○ **B** were ○ **C** are

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5. Fix the mistake in this passive sentence: 'The map were drawn by Ava last week.' Write the corrected sentence, with its full stop.

6. Fix the mistake in this passive sentence: 'The model bridge was build by the students last term.' Write the corrected sentence, with its full stop.

7. Ben turned 'Leah opened the gate last term.' into 'Leah was opened by the gate last term.' Is that right?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** Yes. It means the same thing.

○ **B** No. It should be: The gate was opened by Leah last term.

○ **C** No. It should be: The gate is opened by Leah each term.

8. Choose the word that fits the gap.

Circle one answer.

The sails had been _____ by the strong wind.

○ **A** torn ○ **B** tore ○ **C** tear

9. Which sentence is the passive version of 'The council planted fifty gum trees.'?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** Fifty gum trees were planted by the council.

○ **B** Fifty gum trees was planted by the council.

○ **C** The council was planted by fifty gum trees.

○ **D** Fifty gum trees are planted by the council.

10. Which sentence is passive and does not say who did the action?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** The gate was left open by the caretaker.

○ **B** The wind blew the gate open overnight.

○ **C** The gate was left open overnight.

Answer key

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1. B — Kai wrote the report yesterday.
Kai wrote the report yesterday. In an active sentence the subject does the action. In a passive sentence the subject receives it.

2. A — The twins washed the car yesterday.
The twins washed the car yesterday. In an active sentence the subject does the action. In a passive sentence the subject receives it.

3. A — washed
The car is washed by the twins every week. A passive uses a form of 'be' and the past participle: was built, is written, has been taken.

4. C — are
The loaves are baked by the bakers each term. The form of 'be' agrees with the new subject, the receiver: was or is for one, were or are for more than one.

5. The map was drawn by Ava last week.
The map was drawn by Ava last week. The form of 'be' agrees with the new subject, the receiver: was or is for one, were or are for more than one.

6. The model bridge was built by the students last term.
The model bridge was built by the students last term. A passive uses a form of 'be' and the past participle: was built, is written, has been taken.

7. B — No. It should be: The gate was opened by Leah last term.
The gate was opened by Leah last term. In the passive, the receiver comes first and the doer comes after 'by'. The meaning stays the same.

8. A — torn
The sails had been torn by the strong wind. A passive uses a form of 'be' plus the past participle: been torn.

9. A — Fifty gum trees were planted by the council.
Fifty gum trees were planted by the council. The receiver comes first, the doer follows 'by', and 'were' keeps the past tense and agrees with 'trees'.

10. C — The gate was left open overnight.
The gate was left open overnight. The passive can leave out the doer. The other passive names the caretaker, and ‘The wind blew the gate open overnight’ is active.