



Passive Voice for Suspense

Sentences in active and passive voice both contain action verbs. In active voice, the subject performs the action. In passive voice, the subject receives the action. There are some situations in which you may want to use passive voice. For example:

- when the agent performing the action is obvious, unimportant, or unknown,
- when you want to postpone mentioning the agent until the last part of the sentence, or
- if you don't want to mention the agent at all.

If none of these situations apply, it is generally considered good practice to write in active voice.

DIRECTIONS: Write a short paragraph that keeps the reader in suspense about who is performing the action(s) by using passive voice. Your paragraph can be fiction or nonfiction. If you reveal the agent, wait until the last sentence to do so.
