Active and Passive Voice

A verb in the *active voice* expresses an action done *by* its subject. A verb in the *passive voice* expresses an action done *to* its subject.

    ACTIVE   Principal Ruiz **presented** the awards.

    PASSIVE The awards **were presented** by Principal Ruiz.

EXERCISE A   Above the underlined verb in each sentence, write *A* for *active voice* or *P* for *passive voice*.

  Example **1.** Six Nobel prizes <u>are awarded</u> each year.   *P*

1. The Nobel Prize fund <u>was established</u> by Alfred Bernhard Nobel.

2. Various institutions <u>function</u> as prize awarders.

3. Winners <u>are named</u> in six categories: physics, chemistry, medicine, literature, peace, and economics.

4. The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences <u>awards</u> the prizes in physics and chemistry.

5. Each award <u>consists</u> of a gold medal, a diploma, and money.

6. The first Nobel prizes <u>were awarded</u> on December 10, 1901.

7. Each year, the new winners <u>give</u> lectures as part of their awards ceremonies.

8. Prizes <u>have been declined</u> by various nominees, usually for political reasons.

9. During World Wars I and II, the prize committees <u>couldn't gather</u> information on nominees.

10. No Nobel prizes <u>could be awarded</u> during this time.

EXERCISE B   Underline the verb in each sentence. Above it, write *A* for *active voice* or *P* for *passive voice*.

  Example **1.** Our calendar <u>has been influenced</u> by the early Roman calendar.   *P*

11. The name *January* comes from the Roman month Januarius.

12. Janus was honored by Romans as the god of doors, gates, and new beginnings.

13. *June* is derived from the Roman month Junius.

14. Junius was named after Juno, the goddess of marriage.

15. People associate the month of May with the growth of springtime.

16. In Roman mythology, Maia reigned as the goddess of growth.

17. In Latin, *decem* means "ten."

18. The tenth month of the Roman calendar was called December.

19. *August* refers to Emperor Augustus, ruler of Rome from 27 B.C. to A.D. 14.

20. On the 15th of Februarius, a festival of purification was celebrated by Romans.

8. Hannah had mixed her paints before she
~~notices~~ *noticed* a crack in her palette.

9. My parents owned a diner until last year
when they ~~sell~~ *sold* it.

10. Tim had washed the dishes but ~~forgets~~ *had forgotten* to
put them away.

11. (has) heated   **14.** will wash

12. ran   **15.** finished

13. visited

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1. The Nobel Prize fund was established *P* by
Alfred Bernhard Nobel.

2. Various institutions function *A* as prize
awarders.

3. Winners are named *P* in six categories:
physics, chemistry, medicine, literature,
peace, and economics.

4. The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences
awards *A* the prizes in physics and chemistry.

5. Each award consists *A* of a gold medal, a
diploma, and money.

6. The first Nobel prizes were awarded *P* on
December 10, 1901.

7. Each year, the new winners give *A* lectures as
part of their awards ceremonies.

8. Prizes have been declined *P* by various nomi-
nees, usually for political reasons.

9. During World Wars I and II, the prize com-
mittees couldn't *A* gather *A* information on
nominees.

10. No Nobel prizes could be awarded *P* during
this time.

11. The name *January* comes *A* from the Roman
month Januarius.

12. Janus was honored *P* by Romans as the god
of doors, gates, and new beginnings.

13. *June* is derived *P* from the Roman month
Junius.

14. Junius was named *P* after Juno, the goddess
of marriage.

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growth of springtime.

16. In Roman mythology, Maia reigned *A* as the
goddess of growth.

17. In Latin, *decem* means *A* "ten."

18. The tenth month of the Roman calendar
was called *P* December.

19. *August* refers *A* to Emperor Augustus, ruler of
Rome from 27 B.C. to A.D. 14.

20. On the 15th of Februarius, a festival of
purification was celebrated *P* by Romans.

Sit and *Set,* p. 179

1. set   **5.** Set   **8.** sat

2. sitting   **6.** sit   **9.** set

3. Sit   **7.** setting   **10.** sit

4. sits

11. When our relatives arrived, they began
~~sitting~~ *setting* the food on the dining table.

12. I was ~~setting~~ *sitting* quietly in a corner when I
noticed my nephew Gordy.

13. His mother had ~~sat~~ *set* him in a highchair near
the dining table.

14. From his highchair he could reach the food
that was sitting *C* nearby.