

VOICE

Voice indicates special forms of the transitive verb that show whether the subject is the doer or the receiver of the action. There are two voices: active and passive. When the subject is the doer of the action, the verb is in the active voice.

Robert Maddox *sells* many newspapers.

I *have seen* many films this week.

Mother *found* her glasses under the papers.

When the subject is the receiver of the action, the verb is in the passive voice. This voice is always a verb phrase that consists of some form of the verb *be* with the past participle of the main verb.

Many newspaper *are* sold by Robert Maddox.

Many films *have been seen* by me.

Mother's *found* her glasses under the papers.

	<u>ACTIVE VOICE</u>	<u>PASSIVE VOICE</u>
Present Tense	I see	I am seen
Past Tense	I saw	I was seen
Future Tense	I shall/will see	I shall/will be seen
Present Perfect Tense	I have seen	I have been seen
Past Perfect Tense	I had seen	I had been seen
Future Perfect Tense	I shall/will have seen	I shall/will have been seen

Note: Because the active voice is more direct, more forceful, and more concise than the passive voice, it is preferred.