

Active and Passive Voice

A verb is in the active voice when the subject performs the action.

Mrs. Schiavone **baked** the cookies.

A verb is in the passive voice when the subject receives the action of the verb.

The cookies **were baked** by Mrs. Schiavone.

*(Notice that verbs in the passive voice consist of a helping verb
am, is, are, was, were, be, being, been
and a PP usually beginning with "by" follows the verb.)*

Write the verb or verb phrase from each of the sentences and identify the voice of the verb as either Active or Passive.

	<u>Verb(s)</u>	<u>Active or Passive?</u>
1 Ted was hurt by Julie's reaction to his song.	_____	_____
2 The play was pronounced a great success by the producer and the critics.	_____	_____
3 Unfortunately, nobody believed him.	_____	_____
4 That sapling was bent by last December's unexpected ice storm.	_____	_____
5 Hot, tired, and out of breath, Kim finally reached the top of the hill.	_____	_____
6 The desk clerk directed us to the hotel dining room.	_____	_____
7 The note was left in this bottle more than fifty years ago.	_____	_____
8 Simon jumped over the porch railing into the lilac bush.	_____	_____
9 After a long wait, Jill was admitted to the club.	_____	_____
10 Sam befriended me on my first day here, more than five years ago.	_____	_____



If you can add "by a Zombie" after the verb, then the sentence is written in Passive Voice!