

Read and Discover

Active Voice and Passive Voice

Lesson 18

Earth's mountains were created by plate tectonics. _____

Plate tectonics created the earth's mountains. _____

Circle the simple subject in each sentence. Write *X* by the sentence in which the subject does something. Write *O* by the sentence in which something is done to the subject.

If the subject performs an action, the verb is said to be in the **active voice**. (*Plate tectonics created.*) If the subject is acted upon by something else, the verb is said to be in the **passive voice**. (*Mountains were created.*) Many sentences in the passive voice have a prepositional phrase that begins with the word *by* and follows the verb.

See Handbook Sections 18g, 20

Part 1

Circle the simple subject in each sentence. Draw a box around the simple predicate. Be sure to include helping verbs. Write *A* if the verb is in the active voice. Write *P* if it is in the passive voice.

1. Plate tectonics refers to the movement of chunks of the earth's crust. A
2. The earth's plates constantly are moving into, away from, or against each other. A
3. The land is reshaped drastically at the plates' boundaries. P
4. Many of the earth's mountains were formed by the force of plate movements. P
5. These movements can push rocks upward. A
6. A plate also can slide beneath a neighboring plate. A
7. The top plate can be pushed upward to a great height by the bottom plate. P
8. Plates also can compress and expand. A
9. The process of compression and expansion creates breaks, or faults, in the rock layers. A
10. Mountain ranges can be formed by faults in the middle of plates, far from their colliding edges. P
11. Parts of the Rocky Mountains were created by compression folds and faults. P
12. In the southwest United States, the earth's crust has been stretched by the movement of plates. P
13. Because of this extension, the Basin and Range region is covered by fault-block mountains. P
14. The stretching crust broke the rocky plates into pieces. A
15. Downward-sliding chunks formed valleys. A
16. The steep sides of the remaining rocks stood as mountain ranges. A
17. The process of extension has been forming these rugged features since the Miocene epoch 25 million years ago. A