Active and Passive Verb Forms

**Active Voice:** Subject of the sentence performs the action expressed in the verb.

[the person/thing doing the action] + [verb] + [person/thing receiving action]

- Sally walks the dog.

* The examples below show that the subject is performing an action.

  - The cat jumped on the girl.
    - *The cat (subject) is doing the jumping (verb).*
  
  - Sandy will present a report in class.
    - *Sandy (subject) is presenting (verb) in class.*
  
  - Jeremy walks the dog.
    - *Jeremy (subject) is walking (verb) the dog.*

**Passive Voice:** The thing that is receiving the action; the subject that is being “acted upon.”

[Person/thing receiving action] + [be] + [past participle of verb] + [by] + [person/thing doing action]

- The students are taught by the professor.

* The examples below show the subject being acted upon by the verb.

  - The girl was jumped on by the cat.
    - *The girl (subject) was being jumped on (verb).*
  
  - A report will be presented by Sandy to the class.
    - *A report (subject) will be presented (verb).*
  
  - The dog is walked by Jeremy.
    - *The dog (subject) is being walked (verb).*

* More Examples:

  - Marilyn wrote a letter.
    - **Active Voice**

  - The ball has been thrown by Jackie.
    - **Passive Voice**

  - Mrs. Smith graded the exams.
    - **Active voice**