

Active vs. Passive Pursuit

Activity Type

Grammar and Vocabulary Game: matching, gap-fill, reforming verbs (group work)

Focus

Active vs. passive voice

Aim

To practice active vs. passive voice.

Preparation

Make one copy of the game board for each group of four.

Also, provide a dice for each group.

Level

Upper-intermediate (B2)

Time

20 minutes

Introduction

In this active vs. passive board game, students race to claim as many squares as they can by completing facts with verbs in the active or passive voice.

Procedure

Divide the students into groups of four, comprising of two teams of two. Give each group a copy of the game board and a dice.

Each team should also have a different coloured pencil and an eraser.

Explain that the students are going to play a board game where they try to claim as many squares as they can by completing sentences with a suitable verb in the active or passive voice.

Both teams roll the dice. The team who rolls the highest number goes first.

If a team rolls an odd number, they can only complete an odd-numbered fact. If a team rolls an even number, they can only complete an even-numbered fact.

The team members then choose a fact and complete it with a verb from the centre of the board in the correct active or passive form, writing the verb in the space provided.

If the other team agrees the verb and form are correct, the team wins the square. If not, the verb is erased. If teams cannot reach an agreement, they can ask the teacher to adjudicate. It is then the other team's turn to roll the dice and try to claim a square.

Later in the game, if a team rolls an odd number and there are no odd sentences left to complete, the team misses a turn. The same rule applies to even numbered sentences.

The team with the most squares at the end of the game wins.

Afterwards, check the correct answers with the class.

Answer key

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|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. has been translated (passive) | 11. was founded (passive) |
| 2. won (active) | 12. was written (passive) |
| 3. reached (active) | 13. released (active) |
| 4. exports (active) | 14. was elected (passive) |
| 5. was defeated (passive) | 15. was married (passive) |
| 6. sells (active) | 16. died (active) |
| 7. have been sent (passive) | 17. is visited (passive) |
| 8. abolished (active) | 18. sank (active) |
| 9. invented (active) | 19. is spoken (passive) |
| 10. is held (passive) | 20. has been manufacturing (active) |

Note: This resource can be edited using a PDF editor.

Active vs. Passive Pursuit

1. The bible into over 700 languages.	2. Michael Jordan six NBA championships.
3. Edmund Hillary the top of Mount Everest in 1953.	4. Italy over two million tonnes of pasta each year.
5. Napoleon by the British at the Battle of Waterloo.	6. Starbucks over eight million cups of coffee per day.
7. Over 20 dogs into space.	8. America slavery in 1865.
9. The Chinese paper in 1000 B.C.	10. The World Cup every four years.
marry write reach manufacture abolish release send defeat win die export sell hold sink found invent speak translate elect visit	
11. The U.N. in 1945 after the end of World War II.	12. Hamlet by Shakespeare.
13. Lady Gaga her first album in 2008.	14. Barak Obama president in 2008.
15. Brad Pitt to Angelina Jolie for over 12 years.	16. Mao Tse Tung of natural causes in 1976.
17. The Taj Mahal by over seven million tourists each year.	18. The Titanic in the Atlantic Ocean on April 15, 1912.
19. English by over 1,500 million people worldwide.	20. Apple phones since 2007.