Name:

# Identifying Passive and Active Voice

### PASSIVE VOICE – The subject RECEIVES the action.

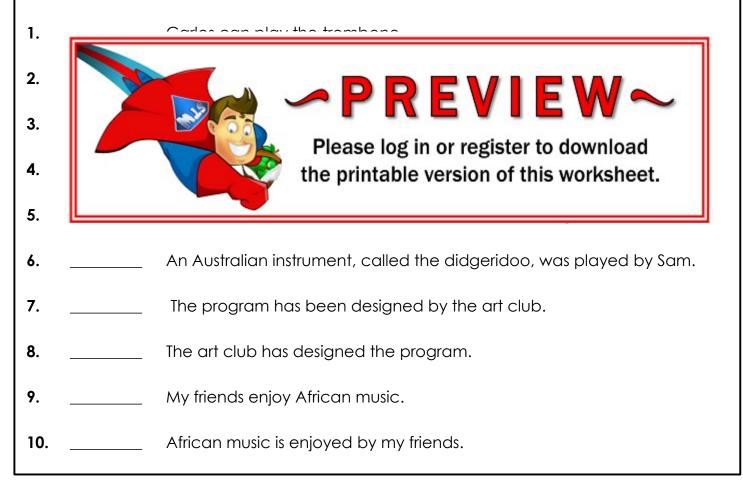
Example: The treasure was guarded by the fire-breathing dragon.

### ACTIVE VOICE – The subject PERFORMS the action.

Example: The fire-breathing dragon guarded the treasure.

- PASSIVE VOICE always uses the past participle of the verb + auxiliary (helping) verbs.
- PASSIVE VOICE usually includes a prepositional phrase starting with by.
- ACTIVE VOICE usually follows a Subject + Verb + Direct Object pattern.
- PASSIVE and ACTIVE VOICE both use ACTION verbs.
- PASSIVE and ACTIVE VOICE can be written in any tense.

Can you tell the difference between active and passive voice? Read each sentence below. Write an A if it is ACTIVE and a P if it is PASSIVE.



## **ANSWER KEY**

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