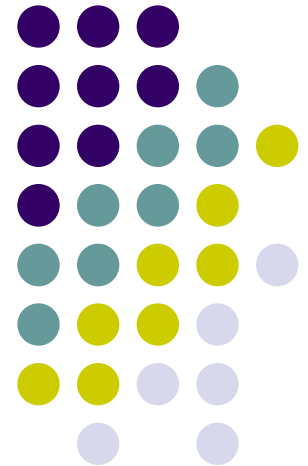
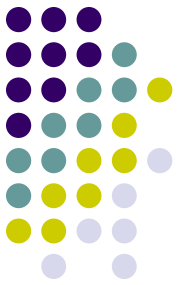


Active vs. Passive Voice





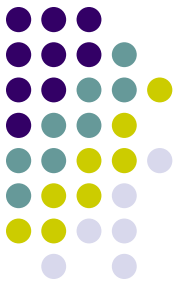
Active vs. Passive Voice

- A sentence is written in the active voice when:
 - The subject of the sentence performs the action.
 - The person/thing performing the action is named before the verb.

EXAMPLE:

My grandfather took me to my first horse show.

NOT: I was taken to my first horse show by my grandfather.



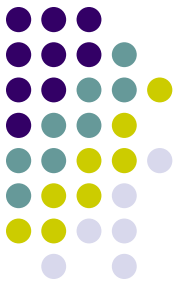
Another example

- Active voice:

My mother taught me to fish almost before I learned to walk.

- Passive voice:

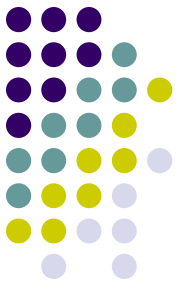
I was taught to fish by my mother almost before I was taught to walk.



Active voice sentences

- When you write in the active voice, sentences are typically shorter and clearer.
- They sound more conversational.
- If each word costs you a nickel, you want to write concisely and in the active voice!

Active voice does not mean present tense verbs



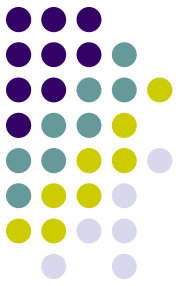
Present tense:

- The clerk opens the mail. (active)
- The mail is opened by the clerk. (passive)

Past tense:

- The clerk opened the mail. (active)
- The mail was opened by the clerk. (passive)

Active voice does not mean present tense verbs



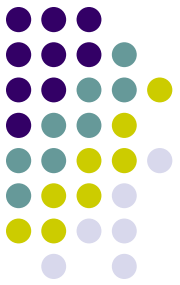
Future tense:

- The clerk will open the mail. (active)
- The mail will be opened by the clerk. (passive)

Present Perfect tense:

- The clerk has opened the mail. (active)
- The mail has been opened by the clerk. (passive)

Active voice does not mean present tense verbs



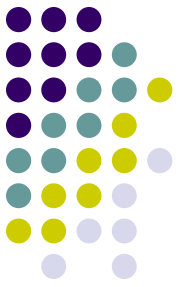
Past Perfect tense:

- The clerk had opened the mail. (active)
- The mail had been opened by the clerk. (passive)

Future Perfect tense:

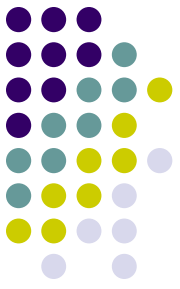
- The clerk will have opened the mail. (active)
- The mail will have been opened by the clerk. (passive)

Now Let's Practice- change to passive voice.



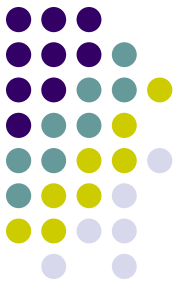
- He sings a song.
- The boy killed a spider.
- Farmers sow maize in the rainy season.
- The workers were digging a canal.

Practice- change from passive to active.



- Marlon Byrd of the Chicago Cubs was knocked down by Alfredo Aceves with a hard, inside fastball.
- The cashier was commended by the branch manager for her tactful handling of an irate customer.

On your own...



- Crosswalk Coach book- turn to Lesson 22 on page 186.