

What is Advanced Passive Voice?

Worksheet

Advanced passive includes cleft sentences ('It is the conclusion that matters'), pseudo-passive ('The book reads well'), and past-participle fronting ('Presented first was the evidence')—complex structures that refocus sentences in formal and academic English.

Questions

1. Which is a cleft sentence?

- A) The book was written in 1990.
- B) It is the conclusion that matters most.
- C) The evidence is compelling.
- D) Writing the report took time.

2. Pseudo-passive differs from simple passive because...

- A) It uses a by-phrase
- B) It lacks an agent and describes subject quality
- C) It has two main verbs
- D) It requires be + past participle

3. In 'Discovered by the team, the artifact was ancient', the fronted element is...

- A) the artifact
- B) was ancient
- C) Discovered by the team
- D) the team

4. Advanced passive structures are used mainly to...

- A) avoid mentioning the agent
- B) control information focus and create sophistication
- C) make sentences longer and more complex
- D) obey strict grammar rules

5. Transform 'The government implemented the policy' into a cleft sentence.

6. Write a pseudo-passive sentence with 'difficult'.

7. Create a sentence with past-participle fronting.

8. Define: What is a cleft sentence?

9. Define: Pseudo-passive vs. simple passive?

10. Define: What is participle fronting?

Answer Key

1. B) It is the conclusion that matters most. — Cleft sentences use 'It is...that' to shift focus. Here, 'conclusion' is emphasized over everything else.
2. B) It lacks an agent and describes subject quality — Pseudo-passive like 'This material is easy to work with' has no agent; it describes the subject, not an action done to it.
3. C) Discovered by the team — The past participle 'Discovered by the team' fronts the main clause for emphasis.
4. B) control information focus and create sophistication — Advanced passive allows writers to emphasize different elements and craft sophisticated prose, central to academic writing.
5. Choose focus: policy or government? Cleft: 'It was the policy that the government implemented.' Or: 'It is the government that implemented the policy.'
6. Pseudo-passive uses adjectives: easy, hard, pleasant, unpleasant. Example: 'This theory is difficult to understand.' No by-phrase needed; describes subject, not action.
7. Start with participle: 'Challenged by critics, ...' Full: 'Challenged by critics, the researcher defended her methodology.' Fronts modifier for emphasis and sophistication.
8. A structure that shifts focus by splitting the idea: 'It is X that Y' (e.g., 'It is the evidence that matters').
9. Simple passive has a by-phrase; pseudo-passive has no agent and describes subject quality—'This book reads well.'
10. Starting a sentence with a past or present participle for emphasis: 'Written by scholars, the theory emerged in 1995.'

Bounlu

All cards, step-by-step solutions and an AI tutor are in the Notek app.
Promy turns exam dates into automatic reminders.