

**Below are two paragraphs describing use of the passive voice, the original from the Purdue OWL and the second a revision of it (created by the author of this module). Examine the use of the active and passive voices in each and discuss which you find most effective and why.**

1a) Sometimes the use of passive voice can create awkward sentences. Also, overuse of passive voice throughout an essay can cause your prose to seem flat and uninteresting. In scientific writing, however, passive voice is more readily accepted since using it allows one to write without using personal pronouns or the names of particular researchers as the subjects of sentences. This practice helps to create the appearance of an objective, fact-based discourse because writers can present research and conclusions without attributing them to particular agents. Instead, the writing appears to convey information that is not limited or biased by individual perspectives or personal interests.

([https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general\\_writing/academic\\_writing/active\\_and\\_passive\\_voice/more\\_about\\_passive\\_voice.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/academic_writing/active_and_passive_voice/more_about_passive_voice.html))

1b) Sometimes awkward sentences can be created by the use of passive voice. Also, prose can seem flat and uninteresting through the overuse of the passive voice. In scientific writing, however, passive voice is more readily accepted since using it allows one to write without using personal pronouns or the names of particular researchers as the subjects of sentences. The appearance of an objective, fact-based discourse is helped by this practice because writers can present research and conclusions without attributing them to particular agents. Instead information that is not limited or biased by individual perspectives or personal interests appears to be conveyed by the writing.