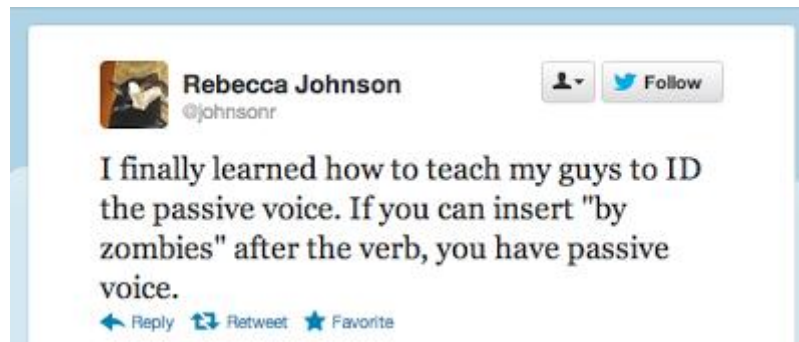


Identify Passive Voice (With Zombies!)



Source: twitter.com/johnsonr

Rebecca Johnson, a professor of culture and ethics at USMC, has the best advice ever. Still confused about what's the difference between passive and active voice? According to Professor Johnson, *if you can add the phrase "by zombies" after the verb, your sentence has passive voice.*

For example:

Passive Voice = She was chased [by zombies].

Active Voice = Zombies chased [by zombies] her.

And voila! Now there's a simple and fun way to identify when you're using passive voice. More questions? Stop by the Writing Center and we can talk about your paper in a one-on-one session.

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It's a Passive Christmas

Use your memory and grammar knowledge to fill in each gap below using the passive in the correct form.

Santa Claus lived in Turkey and _____ (bury) in Bari in the south of Italy.

In Italy, Christmas presents _____ (bring) by an old lady called Befana instead of Santa.

The first time Santa _____ (draw) in a red and white suit was in a Coca Cola advertisement.

Decorated fir trees were first used as Christmas trees in Germany in the 16th century, when they _____ (cover) with apples, roses, candy and coloured paper.

In Holland, wooden shoes _____ (leave) out by children for Santa to put the presents in rather than socks.

In Britain, mistletoe _____ (hang) from the top of a doorway around the house at Christmas. Kissing under this plant brings you good luck for the New Year. In fact, if you are standing under it, you cannot refuse a kiss!

The first printed Christmas card _____ (create) by the first director of London's Victoria and Albert Museum, Sir Henry Cole, in 1843.

The Story of Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer _____ (write) in 1939 as a free gift for customers of an American department store.

In Spain, Christmas presents _____ (bring) by the Three Kings rather than by Father Christmas.

The first electrically lighted Christmas tree _____ (create) by Edison in the 1880s. Before that, candles and gas lights were put on Christmas trees.

Although Jesus was thought to have been born on the 25th, it was probably in the spring. December _____ (chose) as the date to celebrate by the church in order to compete with a big Roman festival at the same time of year.

In Britain, British Christmas turkey _____ (eat) with cranberry jam.

Christmas lasts for 12 days. If your Christmas decorations _____ (take) down by the 12th day, you will receive back luck.

The first recorded Christmas mass in Japan _____ (celebrate) at Yamaguchi Church in 1552.

In Britain, a speech _____ (give) by the Queen on TV at 3 o'clock.

The first advent calendar _____ (publish) in Germany in 1903.

At Christmas dinner, Christmas crackers _____ (pull) by British families. Christmas crackers are small cardboard tubes with coloured paper rolled around them. Inside the crackers are paper party hats, jokes, plastic toys and a very small explosive charge.

Written by Richard Quinn for Teach-This.com ©2012