

ACTIVE VS. PASSIVE VOICE

Student Directions: Fill in the missing information on this handout.

Our writing can suffer when we use **active** or **passive** voice ineffectively. So, what does it mean to write in these different voices? To understand the difference between active and passive voice, we need to look at how a given **subject** functions in a sentence. Is it _____ or _____ the action?

ACTIVE VOICE

WHAT IS IT?

- achieved when the subject of the sentence is _____ the action.
- makes logical sense because the subject is _____ in the sentence

WHY IS IT USED?

- often preferred over passive voice because active voice is typically _____ and more _____
- is often the preferred voice in language arts writing

examples → Our teacher _____ the test. → The choir _____.

→ Habib hit a homerun. _____.

PASSIVE VOICE

WHAT IS IT?

- achieved when the subject of the sentence is receiving the action
- makes logical sense because the subject is passive in the sentence

WHY IS IT USED?

- more often used in writing for subjects like science.
- places emphasis on the _____ of findings of research rather than who conducted the study, which makes it ideal for more scientific subjects.

examples → The test was _____.

→ The homerun _____ by Habib.

→ The song is being sung by the choir **OR*** The song is being sung.

→ Anger was felt by us. **OR*** Anger was felt.

*Writing in the passive voice includes a subject and sometimes a performer of the action.

ELLIPSIS (FOR OMISSION)

three periods separated by spaces (...) that can be used to take out unnecessary information within a quotation

"JACK AND JILL WENT ... TO
FETCH A PAIL OF WATER."

ELLIPSES FOR OMISSION

exit ticket

Student Directions: Read the paragraph and then complete parts 1 and 2 to put your knowledge of ellipses to use!

Cryptids are creatures that are rumored to exist, but there is a lack of scientific evidence to prove it. These mysterious beasts have been the subject of numerous legends and folklore around the world, and they continue to capture the imagination of many people today. Some of the most famous cryptids include Bigfoot, the Loch Ness Monster, and the Chupacabra. Despite many attempts to capture or prove the existence of these creatures, no conclusive proof has ever been found. However, the mystery and intrigue surrounding cryptids continue to fascinate people, and some continue to search for evidence of their existence to this day.

PART 1: Place an 'X' next to quotations with an inappropriate use of ellipsis and a '✓' next to quotations with a proper use of ellipsis.

___ "Cryptids are creature that . . ."

___ "These mysterious beasts . . . continue to capture the imagination of many people today."

___ "Some of the most famous cryptids include . . . the Chupacabra."

___ "However, the mystery . . . fascinate people . . ."

___ ". . . some continue to search for evidence of their existence to this day."

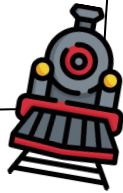
PART 2: Copy the following sentence but omit some of its text and replace it with an ellipsis. Be sure to use the ellipsis properly.

Despite many attempts to capture or prove the existence of these creatures, no conclusive proof has ever been found.



CLOSE THE GATE

ellipses



The object of the game is to create a fence (draw a box) and close more gates (draw the last line to complete the box) than your partner. Once all the gates are closed, the partner with the most closed gates wins the game. Each player should write their initials inside the fence once they close the gate, so it will be easy to determine the winner at the end.

#1

Player One picks a number between 1 and 21 and marks that number off on the right side of the game board.

#2

Player One reads the paragraph and the sentence from the list that corresponds to the number Player One has picked.

#3

Player One identifies if the sentence properly uses the ellipsis to omit information, and if they answer correctly they draw a horizontal or vertical line between two dots on the game board. If they answer incorrectly, they do not draw a line.

#4

Player Two takes a turn, repeating the same process as Player One.

#5

Repeat these steps, alternating between players.

#6

If the line you draw is the fourth side of a box, you have closed the gate. Mark this box with your initials and take another turn.

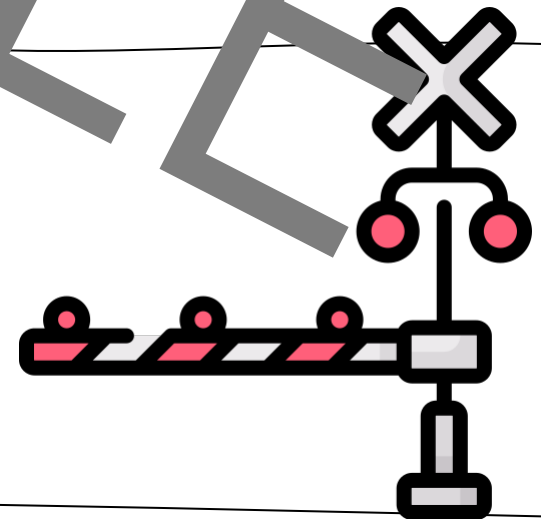
#7

Continue alternating until there are either no more lines to be drawn or no more questions to be asked. Whoever has the most closed gates at the end wins!

HELPFUL HINTS!

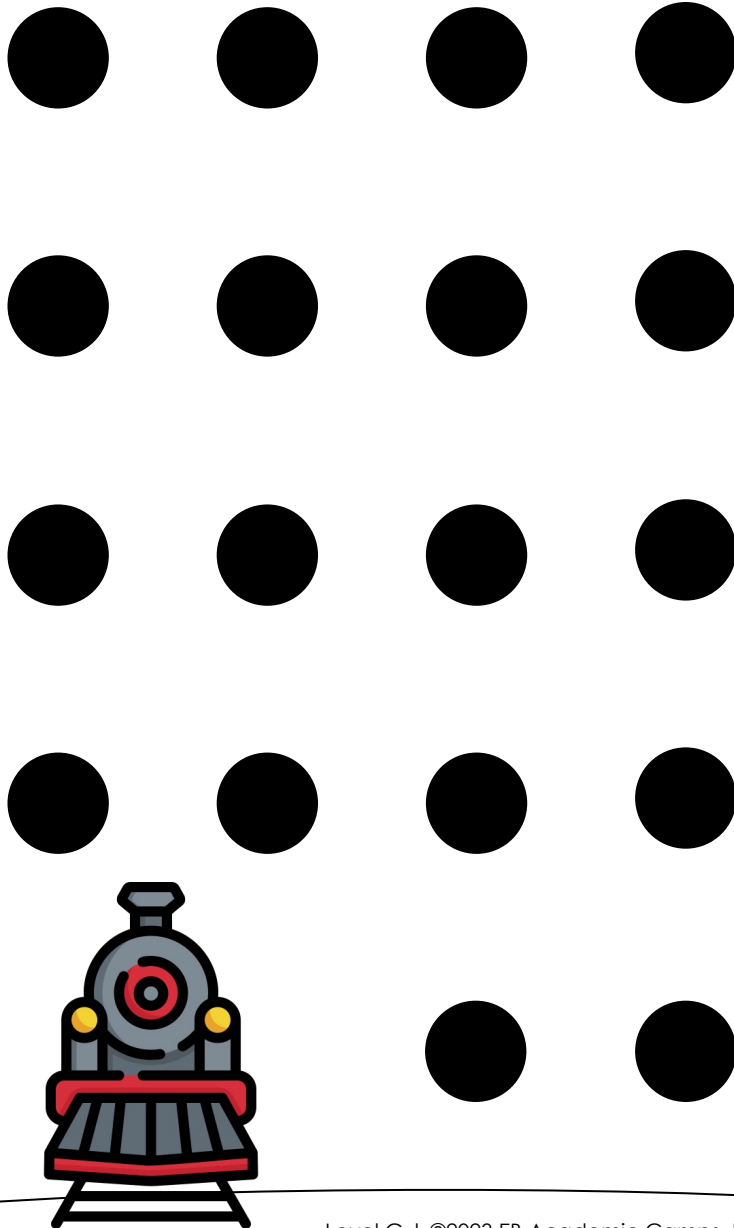
- If a player answers a question wrong, the other player takes their turn. Keep in mind that when you draw your line, you want to prevent your opponent from closing the gate, so don't leave a three-sided box open if you can help it.

If players disagree on whether an answer is correct or incorrect, or if they are confused, they should come to the teacher or adult to help.



CLOSE THE GATE

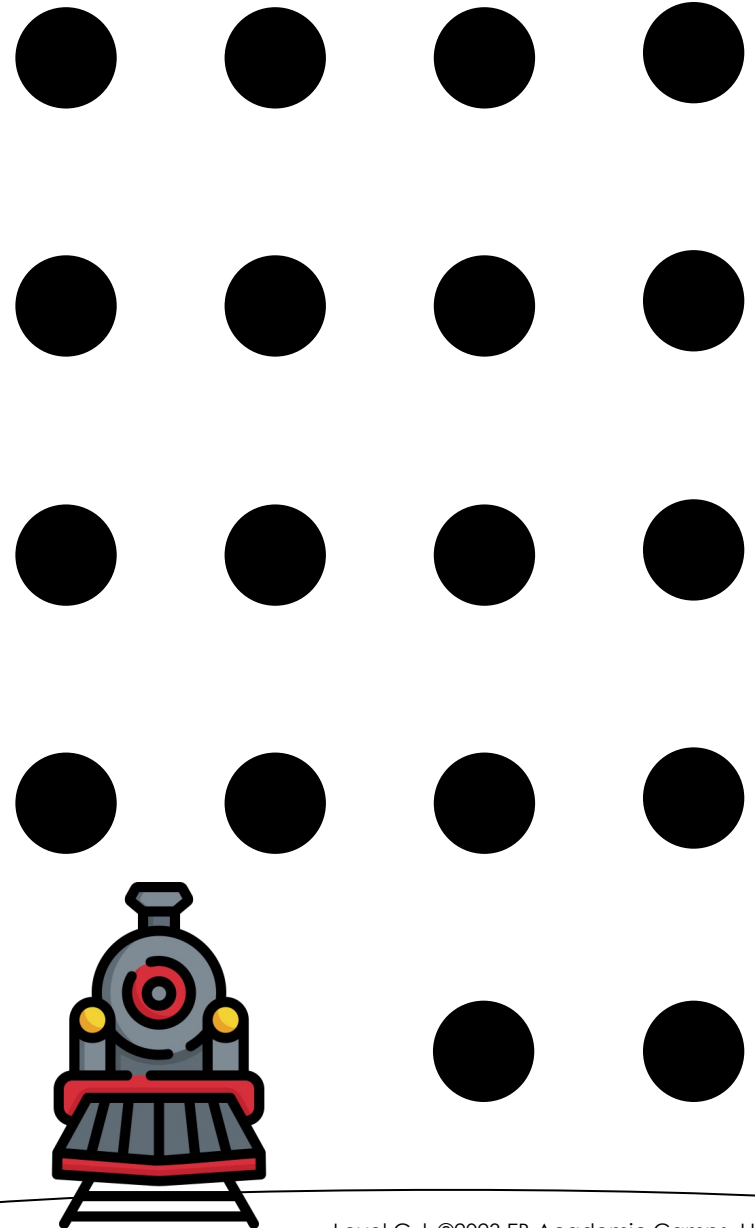
ellipses



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CLOSE THE GATE

ellipses



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GRAMMAR ASSESSMENT

MATCH the verbal in each sentence to its classification.

- They were told to behave during the assembly.
- Students yelling in the cafeteria will be reprimanded.
- Zahra told me to try knitting as a hobby.

Gerund

Participle

Infinitive

CIRCLE the participle word or phrase in each sentence.

- Please hand in your finished work.
- Leaving to watch color, the art student concentrated.

DETERMINE the verb mood for each sentence.

- Be sure to do the laundry when you get home.

a. Indicative

b. Imperative

c. Subjunctive

d. Interrogative

e. Conditional

- As long as you're having fun, we can stay longer.

a. Indicative

b. Imperative

c. Subjunctive

d. Interrogative

e. Conditional

- Mr. Brooks suggests you redo the assignment.

a. Indicative

b. Imperative

c. Subjunctive

d. Interrogative

e. Conditional

- We started a new unit this past Monday.

a. Indicative

b. Imperative

c. Subjunctive

d. Interrogative

e. Conditional

Buck lived at a big house in the sun-kissed Santa Clara Valley. Judge Miller's place, it was called. It stood back from the road, half hidden among the trees, through which glimpses could be caught of the wide cool veranda that ran around its four sides. The house was approached by gravelled driveways which wound about through wide-spreading lawns and under the interlacing boughs of tall poplars. At the rear things were on even a more spacious scale than at the front.

The Call of the Wild by Jack London

SAMPLE

- 1 "Buck lived at a big house in the sun-kissed Santa Clara Valley. Judge Miller's place, it was called. It stood back from the road, half hidden among the trees, through which glimpses could be caught of the wide cool veranda that ran around its four sides."
- 2 "Buck . . . stood back from the road . . ."
- 3 "It stood back from the road"
- 4 "Judge Miller's place, it was called."
- 5 "The house was . . . wound about through wide-spreading lawns"
- 6 "Buck lived at a big house"