

Name _____

Hidden By Voice Answer Key

1. Passive Sentences:

- Sentences 1 to 6. All sentences are passive.

2. Effect of Passive Voice (Sample):

The passive voice hides or downplays who performed the action, which builds suspense and keeps the criminal's identity a mystery.

3. Sample Rewrite:

- Passive: *The crown jewels were stolen.*
- Active: *The thief stole the crown jewels.*

4. Why Mystery Writers Use Passive (Sample):

Mystery writers may use passive voice to focus on the action or result (the jewels being stolen) instead of the doer, which keeps the reader guessing and adds tension.

Teacher Notes:

- This activity blends **grammar mechanics** with **reading comprehension**.
- It highlights that **voice choice is purposeful**: passive is not always “wrong” but can create suspense, objectivity, or emphasis on results.
- Extension idea: Have students write their own “case report” passage, deliberately mixing active and passive sentences to control emphasis.