

NASTY WRITING!

Using the passive voice

First things first, what is it?!

Can you tell an adult at home what it is and how we use it? (I bet they might not know....)

If you can't remember, don't worry:

Out of the blue, a pigeon appeared and tried to grab his bagel!

(ACTIVE voice – the pigeon is the subject and is doing the actions)

(This is what we use most of the time when we are speaking or writing informally)

All of a sudden, his delicious-looking cinnamon bagel was snatched out of his hands.

(PASSIVE voice – the bagel is the focus of the sentence, but it is not doing the snatching!)

REMEMBER: if you can insert 'by zombies' at the end of the sentence, the sentence is in the PASSIVE voice!

Eg All of a sudden, his delicious-looking cinnamon bagel was snatched out of his hands (by zombies – or in this case, by a hungry pigeon!)

Task

Write 3-6 sentences using the passive voice to finish the sentences below about Pigeon Impossible. You can choose from any of them. Watch the video first (if you haven't already), which is in the Writing resources for today:

- 1 His briefcase was (+ VERB IN PAST TENSE)...
- 2 Cars were...
- 3 The bagel was...
- 4 The rocket was...
- 5 The pigeon has been...
- 6 The town was...

Eg 1 His briefcase was damaged by the pigeon jumping about inside it.

4 The rocket was accidentally set off when the pigeon jumped on the button.