

**ELG, 9th handout, voice, prepositional phrases,
objects & complements, verbals & case**

Active and Passive Voice

Identify the voice of each following sentence, then rewrite the paragraph reversing the voice of each sentence. While you do not have to use each word in your revised sentences, the general sense of the original must remain (just change the voice).

Christina and Cue ball had planned a weekend of exercise and adventure in the northern woodlands. Gear and food were carefully packed in two small backpacks.

A scenic route was chosen by the two good friends. As she packed the car, Christina reviewed her mental checklist of things to do.

1) Voice of 1st _____

2) Voice of 2nd _____

3) Voice of 3rd _____

4) Voice of 4th _____

5) _____

6) _____

7) _____

8) _____

Prepositions and Prepositional Phrases

There may be several prepositions connecting different objects to the same word; in other words, there may be several prepositional phrases in a row that modify the same word. On the other hand, consecutive prepositional phrases do not have to modify the same word; they may each modify different words. Prepositions usually come between the words that they connect, but they may begin the sentence, and they may even, especially with some pronouns, come at the end of the sentence.

**ELG, 9th handout, voice, prepositional phrases,
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Place parentheses around all the prepositional phrases in the following sentences.

The trip to the wilderness area stretched through three states and across the border into Canada. In order to get an early start, they stopped at a hotel close to their destination. During the night, the weather seemed to be warming, but by dawn that trend had reversed. At the diner at 5 am, Christina ate a luscious helping of pancakes; Cue ball drank several cups of coffee. Any day of snowshoeing within the pristine beauty of nature promised to burn calories by the hundreds.

Place parentheses around all prepositional phrases in the following sentences and draw an arrow to the word that each phrase modifies.

14) The old-timer who sat in the gatehouse and took their money warned them of a nasty storm later in the day.

15) They thanked him for the information and strapped on their snowshoes.

16) Across the valley they could see the ridge they hoped to reach.

Objects & Complements

Identify the verb object(s) and complement(s) in the following sentences by writing DO, IO or OC or PA or PN above the appropriate word. If there are verbals or verbal phrases functioning as objects or complements, identify them as noted above. If there is more than one clause in a sentence, identify the objects and complements in each clause. I have identified dependent clauses; if they function as verb objects or complements, identify them appropriately.

17) The morning had been cold but clear; it was four degrees fahrenheit.

18) It warmed up to twelve degrees by noon, and then the snow began.

*ELG, 9th handout, voice, prepositional phrases,
objects & complements, verbals & case*

- 19) At times, they could smell the scent of wood smoke.
- 20) The wind blew fiercely and spit snow at the pair [as they crossed a frozen swamp].
- 21) The snowshoes appeared ineffective.
- 22) Christina sank eight inches into the snow and Cue ball more like ten.
- 23) Disgusted, Cue ball unbuckled his snowshoe.
- 24) Immediately, he was hip-deep in snow.
- 25) [As the day progressed into afternoon], they found the wind blowing hard and snow whipping past.
- 26) The wind felt chilling.
- 27) Suddenly they both knew [that their lightweight tent would not protect them from the storm].

Phrases

Identify the type of verbal(s) or verbal phrase(s) underlined in the following sentences.

- 28) Caught in a March blizzard, they sought refuge with ever-shortening strides.
- 29) Peering through the snow, Cue saw an old hunting cabin.

*ELG, 9th handout, voice, prepositional phrases,
objects & complements, verbals & case*

30) Christina pushed open the creaking door and began to examine the interior.

31) Upon inspection, the chimney looked okay, so Cue ball made a fire, and soon the cabin began to warm.

Underline and identify all verbals and verbal phrases. Tell how each functions.

32) The crackling of the fire was a welcome sound.

33) Hearing the screech of the wind, Christina signaled Cue to be silent.

34) As the rattling windows began to glaze over and the cabin to warm, Cue handed Christina a wine skin to drink from.

35) With practiced expertise, Chris held the skin at arm's length and squeezed.

36) Jetting red wine disappeared into her open mouth.

37) She handed the skin to Cue who demurely drank from the tip.

Identify the type of phrases underlined and draw arrows to the word or words each modifies.

38) Using his Swiss army knife, Cue sliced coarse bread and cheese.

39) Looking deeply into his eyes, Christina read Cue's fortune by firelight.

40) Cue ball responded: "Is it my fate to live with you for the rest of my life?"

*ELG, 9th handout, voice, prepositional phrases,
objects & complements, verbals & case*

41) Having been told that there was only one sleeping bag, Christina just smiled at her husband.

Choose the correct pronoun.

42) The ice fishermen **who/whom** were out on the lake used augurs to bore holes in the ice.

43) **Whoever/Whomever** the young fisherman spoke with gave poor advice.

44) A snowmobile appeared from across the lake; driven by **who/whom** it could not be certain.

45) The warm potatoes that were distributed were eaten by all **who/whom** had asked for them.

46) The fish avoided the hooks of the man **who/whom** had baited with cat food.

47) Christina and Cue **who/whom** together had woken at dawn watched the fishermen from the cabin window.

48) The fisherman **who/whom** the others had advised did quite well.

49) The winner was **who/whom**?

50) The winner was not **whoever/whomever** caught the biggest fish.

51) The winner was **whoever/whomever** they talked about.

52) Christina and Cue assumed they knew **who/whom** the winner was.