



Verbs Have Voices and Moods

VOICE

Some verbs have voice. The two categories of voice are **active** and **passive**.

The **active voice** indicates that the subject is performing the action.

For Example: Greg threw the ball.

The **passive voice** indicates that the action of the verb is being performed upon the subject. *Hint: Passive voice verbs generally contain forms of be and have.*

For Example: The ball was thrown by Greg.

** In academic writing try to avoid using verbs in the passive voice.

MOOD

Mood refers to the ability of verbs to convey a writer's attitude through a statement. The three moods in English are the indicative, the imperative, and the subjunctive.

The most frequently used mood is the **indicative mood**. The **indicative mood** is used to state a fact or to ask a question.

*Examples: It is raining outside.
Where is the umbrella?*

The **imperative mood** is used to give a command or to make a request.

*Examples: Look at these beautiful flowers!
Please pass the salt.*

The **subjunctive mood** is used to express conditions including wishes, recommendations, indirect requests, and speculations. The subjunctive mood is generally indicated by the use of the words *if*, *as if*, and *although*.

*Examples: If I were you, I would study for your test.
Although I did not want to study, I still prepared for my test.*