

ACTIVE



INTENTIONALLY OR  
ACCIDENTALLY.



JOURNALISTS HAVE A BAD HABIT OF USING PASSIVE VOICE WHEN THEY FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE NAMING A PERPETRATOR.

"I'M GONNA GET AN ANGRY PHONE CALL."

WRITERS' INTERVAL BIASES  
FEAR OF BACKLASH

OFEN, PASSIVE VOICE TO KEEP IT MATURE. BUT THE ACTOR, SO YOU HAVE SOMETIME'S, YOU DON'T KNOW

PASSIVE VOICE IS A GRAMMATICAL STYLE WHERE WRITERS OBSCURE OR DILUTE THE PRACTICE IN HOW IT'S...



MAKES I MADE  
THAN

ACTIVE

## LESSON GRAMMAR A LIFE-AND-DEATH

### COWARDS IS FOR PASSIVE VOICE

OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT TERMS COMBINE WITH PASSIVE VOICE TO OBSCURE THE PEOPLE WHO COMMIT VIOLENCE.

© CSS Chicago  
Protest Held On Behalf Of Man Who Died During Arrest In Minneapolis  
People protested in Chicago on following the death of George Floyd, an unarmed black man who was being arrested by police in Minneapolis.  
1 day ago

"MAN WHO DIED DURING ARREST" ... WHO KILLED HIM?  
WHO FIRED THEM? AND AGAIN, WHO KILLED WHO?  
THE MAN?

THIS CONVOLUTED TWEET PLACES THE RESPONSIBILITY ON... UH... "AN OFFICER'S KNEE"?

POLICE OFFICERS DON'T HURT PEOPLE—THEY'RE "INVOLVED IN USE-OF-FORCE INCIDENTS."

NOWHERE IS PASSIVE VOICE MORE WIDESPREAD AND INSIDIOUS THAN IN OUR LANGUAGE AROUND POLICE.

U.S. DRONE STRIKE KILLS 60 PEOPLE  
LET'S REVERSE.  
60 PEOPLE WERE KILLED BY DRONE STRIKE

NEC New York  
4 Minneapolis Officers Fired After Death of Black Man  
The man who died after being shot by police in Minneapolis has been identified as George Floyd. By Amy Purnell and Jeff Baenen ...  
1 day ago



WE SEE THE WORLD CHOOSE SHARES THE WAY WE USE THE LANGUAGE WE USE AND WHO TAKES ACTION IN IT.

A POLICE OFFICER-NIGHTMARE SHOOTING ... THERE WAS AN OFFICER-NIGHTMARE SHOOTING ... CHOOSE A MAN.

© The New York Times @nytimes May 26  
Mayor Jacob Frey of Minneapolis tweeted Tuesday afternoon that 4 officers involved in the arrest of a man who died after being handcuffed and pinned to the ground by an officer's knee had been fired. nyti.ms/2gmnfa