Passive Voice vs. Active Voice

According to Dictionary.com, passive voice is defined as:

A verb is in the passive voice when the subject of the sentence is acted on by the verb. For example, in “The ball was thrown by the pitcher,” the ball (the subject) receives the action of the verb, and was thrown is in the passive voice. The same sentence cast in the active voice would be, “The pitcher threw the ball.”

A way to think of this is like a classroom. The “active” students sit in the front of the room to do their best. They are doing the “action” by being “active”. Passive students, the ones who aren’t motivated, sit in the back of the classroom. They aren’t actively involved and are far from the action.

Active = The thing (student) doing the verb is in the front of the sentence (room).
“The dog chased the cat.”

Passive = The thing (student) doing the verb is in the end (back) of the sentence (room).
“The cat was chased by the dog.”

An easy example (Move 1 & 2 and bring the verb down):

Sometimes you will come upon a sentence that does not have an object. For example, “The tire was changed yesterday.” In this instance you would need to add in a subject. “Yesterday, someone changed the tire.” In translating into ASL, you will need to remove the superfluous English (Infinitives, articles, prepositions, past tense, and suffixes).

EX: English PV – The party was hosted by my aunt.
    ASL AV – My aunt host party.

English PV – The garage was broken into.
    ASL AV – Someone break enter garage.