

Transcript: Looking at the use of active and passive voice

Context: Report writing

- **Teacher:** Remember we want to make the main idea clearer, so it's best to use an active voice for the report. Read me your first sentence.
- **Student:** The streets and houses of Oamaru were flooded with water.
- **Teacher:** OK. Now what is the subject of your sentence?
- **Student:** It is about the floods ... so the subject is the water.
- **Teacher:** Right, then how could you change your first sentence to make it active? Remember that the subject needs to perform the action if we want it to be active.
- **Student:** How about ... the water flooded the streets and houses of Oamaru?
- **Teacher:** Great! Now have a look at the rest of your report and see if you need to change any other parts from passive to active.