SOLUTION TO THE EVALUATED ACTIVITY:  THE PASSIVE VOICE

Activity 1: Rewrite these sentences to put them in the active voice.

a. The apples weren’t eaten by the horses.
   The horses didn’t eat the apples.

b. Jogging is done by many people for exercise.
   Many people do/go jogging for exercise.

c. A honor medal will be given to the scientist by the president tomorrow.
   The president will give a honor medal to the scientist tomorrow.
   The scientist will be given a honor medal by the president tomorrow.

d. The exam has been handed out by the professor.
   The professor handed out the syllabus.

Activity 2: Rewrite the paragraph changing the active sentences into passive voice and vice versa:

Many people visit Washington.
   Passive: Washington is visited by many people.

James Hoban built the White House.
   Passive: The White House was built by James Hoban.

Pennsylvania Avenue connects the White House and the Capitol.
   Passive: The White House and the Capitol are connected by Pennsylvania Avenue.

In the Capitol, workers are building a visitors center.
   Passive: In the Capitol, a visitors center is being built.

They will probably finish it in 2006.
   Passive: It will probably be finished in 2006.

Activity 3: Rewrite this text to put it in the active voice.

Last summer our house was painted by me. = I painted our house last summer
The job took about two weeks. = OK
First, the exterior was washed using warm water and a mild detergent. = First, I washed the exterior…
Then all the pores in the walls were sealed with putty. = I sealed all the pores …
After the putty dried, the exterior could be painted. = After the putty dried, I could paint the exterior.
A latex paint was used because it is easy to apply and cleans up with water. = I used a latex paint …
I was very careful to apply the paint evenly because I did not want to have to apply two coats of paint. = OK
A color was used that was very close to the original color. = I used a color that …
Our house is a two-storey house, which meant that a tall ladder was needed to do the second storey. = Our house is a two-storey house, which meant that I needed a tall ladder to do the second storey.
The paint can had to be balanced on the top rung of the ladder while I worked. = I had to balance the paint can on the top rung of the ladder while I worked.
When the job was finished, a great satisfaction was felt by me. = When I finished the job, I felt a great satisfaction.
Even my dad said that a good job was done. = Even my dad said that I did a good job.