

Reading-Writing Connection

Increase your appreciation of “The Charge of the Light Brigade” and “The Highwayman” by responding to these prompts. Then complete the **Grammar and Writing** exercise.

WRITING PROMPTS	SELF-CHECK
<p>A. Short Response: Write a Dialogue Both Bess and the soldiers of the Light Brigade stand up to something more powerful. Write a half-page dialogue between Bess and a soldier of the Light Brigade in which they discuss their ideas of honor.</p>	<p>A realistic dialogue will . . .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• use language appropriate for each character• include details from the poems that support each character’s ideas
<p>B. Extended Response: Write a News Article Pretend you are a reporter writing a front-page story about a recent tragedy. Choose one of the poems and write a journalistic account of its events in three to five paragraphs. Include a headline that will grab your readers’ attention.</p>	<p>A successful article will . . .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• describe all the important events of the poem• use descriptive words and phrases to make the event come alive for the reader

GRAMMAR AND WRITING

USE THE ACTIVE VOICE A verb can be in either the active voice or the passive voice. In a sentence that uses the **active voice**, the subject *performs* the verb’s action. In a sentence that uses the **passive voice**, the subject of the sentence *receives* the verb’s action.

Active: The officers commanded the British soldiers.
(*The subject officers performs the action of the verb commanded.*)

Passive: The British soldiers were commanded by the officers.
(*The subject officers receives the action of the verbs were commanded.*)

PRACTICE Rewrite each of these sentences using the active voice.

1. The officers’ commands were obeyed by the Light Brigade.
2. Sabers were the weapons used by the British soldiers.
3. Soldiers and horses alike were killed by the Russians.
4. The Light Brigade will be remembered by the world.

For more help with active and passive voice, see page R57 in the Grammar Handbook.