

## EXERCISE 8-1 Active Verbs

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Revise any weak, unemphatic sentences by replacing be verbs or passive verbs with active alternatives and, if necessary, by naming in the subject the person or thing doing the action. Some sentences are emphatic; do not change them. Example:

*The ranger doused the campfire before giving us*

~~The campfire was doused by the ranger before we were given~~ a ticket for  
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unauthorized use of a campsite.

- a. The Prussians were victorious over the Saxons in 1745.
  - b. The entire operation is managed by Ahmed, the producer.
  - c. Yellow flags were thrown down by all the referees.
  - d. At the crack of rocket and mortar blasts, I jumped from the top bunk and landed on my buddy below, who was crawling on the floor looking for his boots.
  - e. There were shouting protesters on the courthouse steps.
1. Just as the police were closing in, two shots were fired by the terrorists from the roof of the hotel.
  2. Her letter was in acknowledgment of the student's participation in the literacy program.
  3. The bomb bay doors rumbled open and freezing air whipped through the plane.
  4. Listening to the music of Charlie Parker and John Coltrane had the effect of inspiring me to take up the saxophone.
  5. The only responsibility I was given by my parents was putting gas in the brand-new Mitsubishi they bought me my senior year.