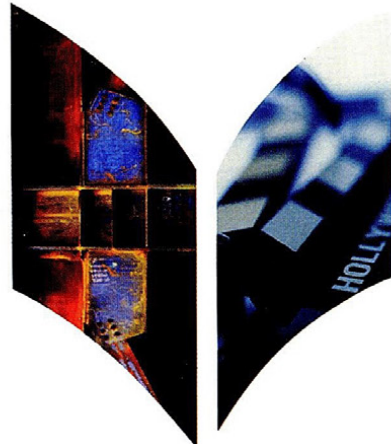
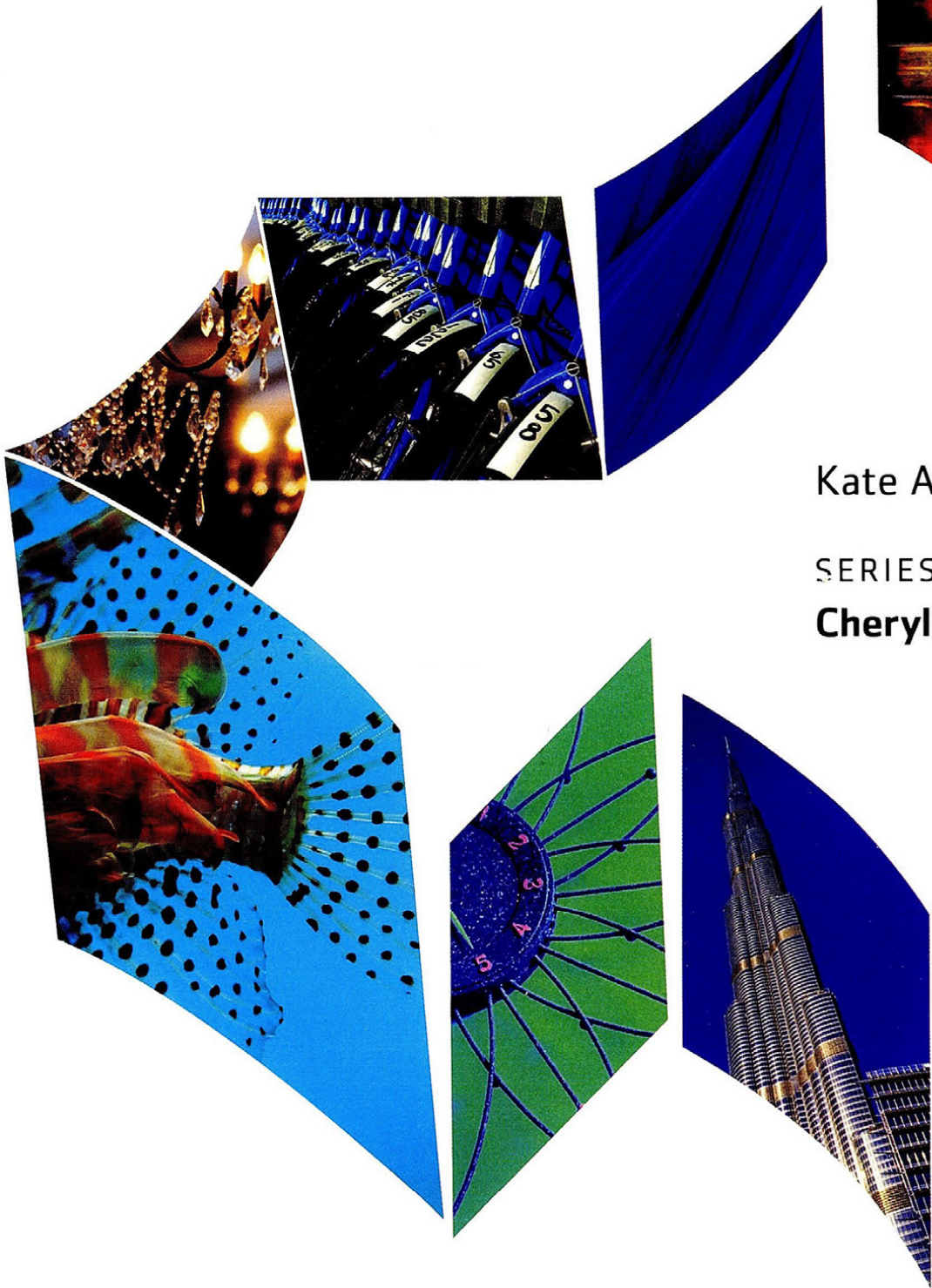


INSIDE WRITING

The Academic Word List in Context

3



Kate Adams

SERIES DIRECTOR:

Cheryl Boyd Zimmerman

OXFORD

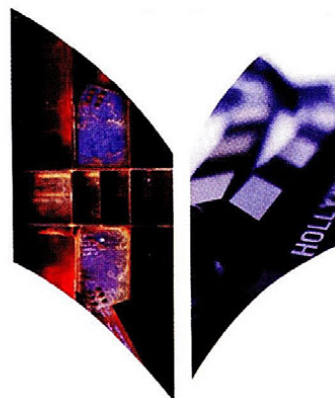
INSIDE WRITING

The Academic Word List in Context

Kate Adams

SERIES DIRECTOR:

Cheryl Boyd Zimmerman



Acknowledgements

We would like to acknowledge the following individuals for their input during the development of the series:

Salam Affouneh
Higher Colleges of Technology
Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.

Kristin Bouton
Intensive English Institute
Illinois, U.S.A.

Nicole H. Carrasquel
Center for Multilingual Multicultural Studies
Florida, U.S.A.

Elaine Cockerham
Higher College of Technology
Muscat, Oman

Danielle Dilkes
CultureWorks English as a Second Language Inc.
Ontario, Canada

Susan Donaldson
Tacoma Community College
Washington, U.S.A.

Penelope Doyle
Higher Colleges of Technology
Dubai, U.A.E.

Edward Roland Gray
Yonsei University
Seoul, South Korea

Melanie Golbert
Higher Colleges of Technology
Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.

Elise Harbin
Alabama Language Institute
Alabama, U.S.A.

Bill Hodges
University of Guelph
Ontario, Canada

David Daniel Howard
National Chiayi University
Chiayi

Leander Hughes
Saitama Daigaku
Saitama, Japan

James Ishler
Higher Colleges of Technology
Fujairah, U.A.E.

John Iveson
Sheridan College
Ontario, Canada

Alan Lanes
Higher Colleges of Technology
Dubai, U.A.E.

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Illinois, U.S.A.

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Nebraska, U.S.A.

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Saitama, Japan

Tracy Anne Munteanu
Higher Colleges of Technology
Fujairah, U.A.E.

Eileen O'Brien
Khalifa University of Science, Technology, and Research
Sharjah, U.A.E.

Jangyo Parsons
Kookmin University
Seoul, South Korea

John P. Racine
Dokkyo Daigaku
Soka City, Japan

Scott Rousseau
American University of Sharjah
Sharjah, U.A.E.

Jane Ryther
American River College
California, U.S.A.

Kate Tindle
Zayed University
Dubai, U.A.E.

Melody Traylor
Higher Colleges of Technology
Fujairah, U.A.E.

John Vogels
Higher Colleges of Technology
Dubai, U.A.E.

Kelly Wharton
Fanshawe College
Ontario, Canada

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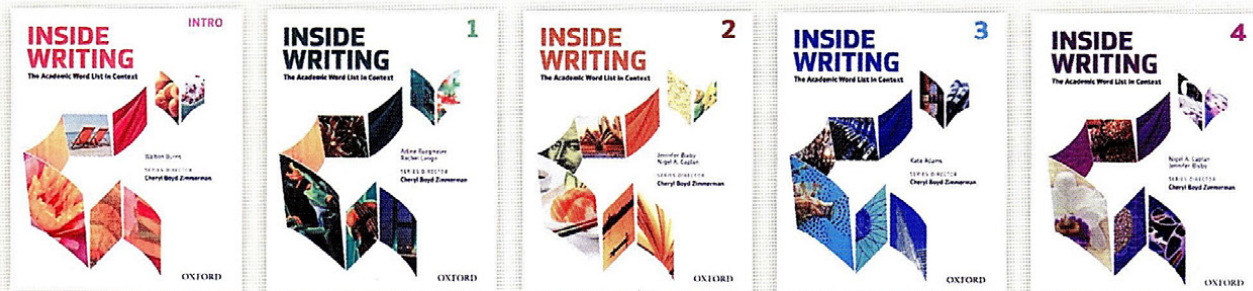
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The Inside Track to Academic Success

Student Books



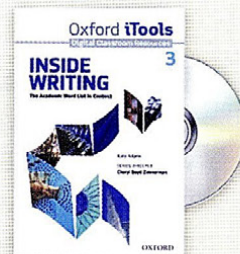
For additional student resources visit: www.oup.com/elt/insidewriting

iTools for all levels

The *Inside Writing* iTools is for use with an LCD projector or interactive whiteboard.

Resources for whole-class presentation

- > **Book-on-screen** focuses class on teaching points and facilitates classroom management.
- > **Writing worksheets** provide additional practice with the genre and Writing Models.



Resources for assessment and preparation

- > Customizable Unit, Mid-term, and Final Tests evaluate student progress.
- > Answer Keys

Additional instructor resources at: www.oup.com/elt/teacher/insidewriting

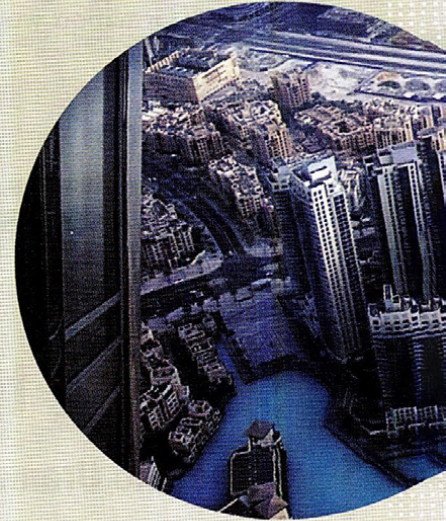
UNIT

1

Soaring to the Top

In this unit, you will

- > analyze an architecture review and learn how it is used to describe a building.
- > use descriptive writing.
- > increase your understanding of the target academic words for this unit.









WRITING SKILLS

- > Descriptive Language
- > Spatial Organization
- > **GRAMMAR** Passive and Active Voice

Self-Assessment

Think about how well you know each target word, and check (✓) the appropriate column. I have...

TARGET WORDS	never seen the word before.	heard or seen the word but am not sure what it means.	heard or seen the word and understand what it means.	used the word confidently in <i>either</i> speaking or writing.
AWL				
abstract				
allocate				
bulk				
 colleague				
comprise				
 cycle				
dynamic				
 estate				
furthermore				
hence				
 logic				
 obtain				
refine				
 transform				

Building Knowledge

Read these questions. Discuss your answers in a small group.

1. What buildings do you like? Why do you like them?
2. What makes some spaces more pleasant to be in than others? Why?
3. What information would you expect to find in a review of a building?

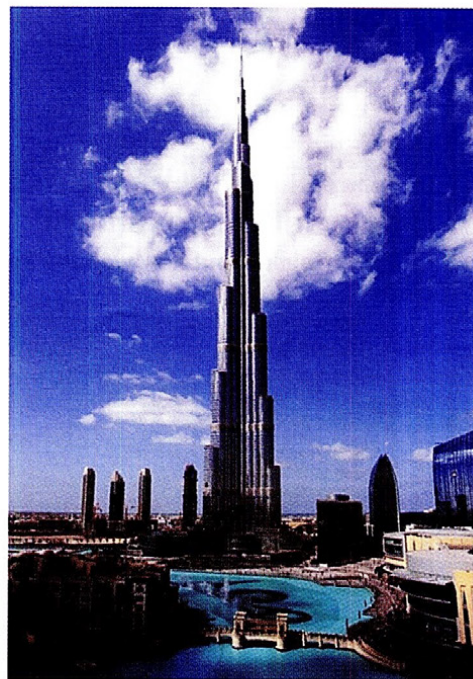
Writing Model

An architecture review is a detailed description of a building's features. Read about the Burj Khalifa, a skyscraper in Dubai, U.A.E.

Soaring to the Top: The Burj Khalifa

by Stefano Urankowski

The Burj Khalifa in Dubai has **obtained**, for the moment, the title of the world's tallest building. At 828 meters tall, it towers over other great skyscrapers. It is easily
5 twice as tall as the Empire State Building in New York. In fact, when it was completed in 2009, the Burj Khalifa was over 300 meters taller than the Taipei 101 tower in Taiwan, which had been the world's tallest building.
10 The team of Adrian Smith and William Baker, **colleagues** from the architectural firm Skidmore, Owens, and Merrill, designed this tower. Previously, Skidmore, Owens, and Merrill had gained fame for Chicago's Sears (now Willis)
15 Tower. The title of tallest building was held by that U.S. skyscraper for over 25 years. Now the team has brought international fame to the Middle East with the Burj Khalifa.



The Burj Khalifa

In addition to its record-breaking height,
20 the tower's shape also stands out from other
buildings of its time. Approaching Dubai from
the desert, the Burj Khalifa appears as a
refined, classic¹ form rising above the city. The
architects designed a **logical** shape, rather than
25 giving the tower unusual curves or balancing its
bulk on a narrow edge. Instead, to viewers, it
looks like the simpler skyscrapers from
generations ago.

In fact, the tower is surprisingly subtle² for a
30 structure of its size. While its base looks wide,
the building **transforms** as it rises. It narrows
into a single sharp point at the top. You'd never
guess that the tip is made of 4,000 tons of steel
and is used to house the building's
35 communications equipment.

If you are looking up at the tower from the
ground nearby, you'll notice the nearly 26,000
panes of individually cut glass. The surfaces of
aluminum and stainless steel shine in the bright
40 sun, almost year-round. Of course, when
standing close to the building, it's impossible to
see the top.

The Burj Khalifa's height is experienced best
from inside the tower. Once inside, you find
45 more records that the Burj Khalifa has broken.
Ride one of its 57 elevators to the top and you
will have traveled the longest distance possible
in an elevator. Exit the elevator at the
observation deck and you will be on the highest
50 outdoor observation area in the world. Look out
at the **abstract** beauty of the world from this
height. Then take the elevator down two floors.

¹ *classic*: having a value that will last a long time

² *subtle*: not large, bright, or easy to notice

³ *condominium*: an apartment owned by the people who live in it

⁴ *tenant*: a person that pays to use another person's property

There you can dine at a slightly more
comfortable height.

55 As impressive as the height is, it's the
dynamic relationship of the interior to the
exterior that gives the building purpose and
form. A concrete core supports the weight of
the tower and sits in the center of a Y-shaped
60 floor plan. This core and Y-shape provide
stability on the ground and in the air, and
as the building rises, the floors become
narrower, creating a stair-step appearance.
Furthermore, the curving sections of the
65 Y-shape reduce the effect of the wind. The
firm describes this as "confusing the wind."
Because of the different widths of the floors,
the wind cannot form a **cycle** of force circling
around the tower. **Hence**, the narrowing of the
70 tower has a structural purpose too.

This unique design is made possible by
the **allocation** of the interior real **estate**. The
bulk of the building is **comprised** of
condominiums.³ This is key. If the tenants⁴ in
75 the building were companies looking for office
space, the slim design would not have been
possible. Companies now want lots of space
for desks and office machinery. However, a
building **comprised** mainly of condominiums
80 can be designed without all the requirements
for huge, open floors.

Whether you are seeing the Burj Khalifa
from far away, nearby, or from the inside, tilt
your head back and enjoy the view. Human
85 creativity doesn't get any better than this.

LEARN

Descriptive writing uses vivid details to help readers create pictures in their minds. Use these methods to include descriptions in your writing.

1. Adjective-noun combinations such as *large office* and *ancient building* create an image.
2. Some verbs, such as *twist*, *bend*, *transform*, and *illuminate*, are descriptive and add to the image.
3. Some verbs, such as *is*, *seem*, *become*, *appear*, *look*, and *feel*, link a noun with a description.

In fact, the tower ^{linking verb} *is* surprisingly ^{adjective} *subtle* for a structure of its size. While its base ^{linking verb} *looks* wide, the building ^{descriptive verb} *transforms* as it rises.

Other descriptive language gives practical details. Most architecture reviews describe building details or give technical construction information.

You'd never guess that the tip is made of 4,000 tons of steel and is used to house the building's communications equipment.

APPLY

A. Read the architecture review on pages 2–3 again. Find descriptive language in the model.

1. Circle adjective-noun combinations that create an image.
2. Underline descriptive verbs.
3. List three verbs that link an image with a description.

appears,

B. Work with a partner to find examples of descriptive and technical language in the writing model. Write them in the chart below.

Descriptive language (helps to create a picture)	Technical language (used mainly in architecture)
<p><i>creating a stair-step appearance</i></p>	<p><i>a concrete core supports the weight of the tower</i></p>

C. Write more descriptive versions of each sentence. Share your sentences with a partner.

1. The sunset is beautiful.

The sunset paints the sky with red and orange light.

2. The building is tall.

3. The space is small.

4. The food tastes good.

Analyze

A. Read the architecture review on pages 2–3 again. The author compares the Burj Khalifa to other structures. Answer the questions below.

1. Where are the comparisons in the review? Find and underline the comparisons.

2. What language patterns express comparisons? Write the phrases.

stands out from

3. How do the comparisons help create a picture of the building? Discuss your opinion with a partner.

B. Find a sentence in the architecture review on pages 2–3 that expresses the same idea as each sentence below.

1. The tower is taller than other skyscrapers.

At 828 meters tall, it towers over other great skyscrapers.

2. As the building rises, it changes shape.

3. The building doesn't try to be different.

C. With a partner, read the pairs of sentences in activity B. Which sentence in each pair is more descriptive? Discuss what makes the author's better.

D. Discuss these questions with a partner.

1. Why does the author compare the Burj Khalifa to the Willis Tower?
2. Why does the author discuss the floor plan of the building?
3. What descriptions from the model best created a picture of the building in your mind?
4. What practical and technical details do you think are the most interesting?

Vocabulary Activities **STEP 1: Word Level**

A. Match each cycle to its parts. Then compare answers with a partner. What other cycles can you think of?

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <u>C</u> 1. life cycle | a. fill, soak, rinse, wash, spin |
| ___ 2. lunar (moon) cycle | b. first quarter, full, last quarter, new |
| ___ 3. water cycle | c. birth, childhood, adulthood, death |
| ___ 4. wash cycle (for laundry) | d. precipitation (rain, snow), evaporation, cloud formation |

B. Something that is *abstract* exists as an idea, but you cannot touch or see it. The opposite of *abstract* is *concrete*. You can see and feel concrete things. Write **A for abstract nouns and **C** for concrete nouns.**

- | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <u>C</u> 1. skyscraper | ___ 3. window | ___ 5. bicycle |
| ___ 2. research | ___ 4. friendship | ___ 6. university |

One definition of *logic* is “a sensible reason or way of thinking.” The adjective form, *logical*, describes “something that seems natural or sensible.”

It's logical to cancel the game, because it looks like it is going to rain.

The opposite, *illogical*, means “not sensible or not reasonable.”

Since transportation is expensive, living so far away from school is illogical.



C. Read the decisions below. Write **L if a decision is logical, and **I** if it is illogical.**

- L 1. The floor plan included both stairs and an elevator.
- ___ 2. He designed a building with 85 floors and one elevator.
- ___ 3. Road construction was performed in the morning, when many people were driving to work.
- ___ 4. The pilot delayed her flight because of a storm.

A *colleague* is “a person who you work with.”

Use the word *colleague* in formal situations, such as in the workplace or at a business lunch.

Colleague usually refers to a person who is at your level. For instance, you would not refer to your manager as a colleague.

Let me introduce you to my *colleague*. We've worked together for seven years.

CORPUS

D. Read the word lists below. Circle the synonym for *colleague* in each list.

- | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| 1. coach | <u>business associate</u> | classmate |
| 2. assistant | friend | coworker |
| 3. collaborator | manager | opponent |
| 4. work partner | instructor | employee |

E. Complete each sentence below using the correct form of *allocate*, *obtain*, or *refine*. Use the words in parentheses for help.

- I obtained my passport only five days before my trip!
(received)
- Over the next week, the architect will _____ these blueprints.
(improve)
- This apartment has a lot of space _____ to the kitchen.
(set aside)
- Do you know where I could _____ a building permit?
(get)

F. Complete the excerpt from an architecture review with the correct form of a target word from the box. Use the words in parentheses for help. Compare answers with a partner.

allocate	bulk	furthermore	hence
obtain	real estate	refine	transform

Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava designed the Turning Torso, the tallest building in Sweden and all of Scandinavia. It looks like a building waving in the wind, twisting as it rises. Furthermore, its base is smaller than its highest point. _____, its form doesn't seem quite logical. Each of Calatrava's buildings seems to be better than the last. He _____ his reputation from this ability to _____ his

(1. In addition) (2. As a result) (3. got) (4. improve)

work. He _____ buildings into sculptures. The _____
(5. turns) (6. majority)
of the Turning Torso is comprised of apartments. However, Calatrava
_____ some of the _____ to be used as a spa
(7. assigned) (8. space)
and lounge.

Vocabulary Activities STEP II: Sentence Level

Comprise means “to have someone or something as parts or members.” In this sense, something is made up of other things.

*The exhibit **comprises** 14 original artworks.*

When using this sense of *comprise*, the collocation *be comprised of* is common:

*The group **is comprised of** men and women from each geographic region.*

Comprise can also mean “to be the parts or members that form something.” In this sense, *comprise* means to consist of the things mentioned. Do not use *be comprised of* with this sense of *comprise*.

*Young people **comprise** the largest group of social media users.*

X *Young people **are comprised of** the largest group of social media users.*

CORPUS

G. Create sentences using the phrases below and the verb *comprise*. Use the verb *comprise* in two sentences and the collocation *be comprised of* in two sentences.

1. building / offices and stores

The building I work in is comprised of offices and stores.

2. architects and engineers / bulk of the design team

3. apartment building / 400 units

4. estate / main house and gardens

H. *Dynamic* describes something that is full of energy or ideas. What makes the Burj Khalifa’s design dynamic? Use *dynamic* and *transform* in your answer.

Grammar Passive and Active Voice

Active Voice

In the sentence below, the subject is the agent (or doer) of the action. This is called active voice. Use the active voice to focus on the person or thing that does the action.

^{agent} Adrian Smith and ^{agent} William Baker ^{action} designed ^{receiver} the tower.

Passive Voice

In the sentence below, the subject is the receiver of the action. This is called passive voice. The passive voice contains a form of the verb *be* and the past participle of the main verb.

^{receiver} The tower ^{action} was designed ^{agent} by ^{agent} Adrian Smith and William Baker.

Writers use the passive voice when they want to focus on the person or thing that the action happened to. Passive voice is also used when the agent is unknown or unimportant.

^{receiver} The building ^{action} was constructed over several years.

The passive voice can only be used with transitive verbs, which describe actions someone or something can do to another person or thing. Intransitive verbs, such as *appear*, *look*, *occur*, and *emerge*, cannot take the passive voice.

The transitive verbs *has*, *lack*, *weighs*, and *consists of* do not take the passive voice.

- A.** Read the sentences below. Write *A* for active and *P* for passive voice. Then rewrite the sentence in the other voice with a partner. Discuss why the writer used the active or passive voice in each sentence.

A 1. Its Y-shaped floor plan provides stability.

Stability is provided by its Y-shaped floor plan.

___ 2. A concrete core supports the weight of the tower.

___ 3. The bulk of the building is comprised of condominiums.

B. Read the focus of each sentence. Is the voice used appropriate for the focus? Write *A* for agree or *D* for disagree. If you disagree, rewrite the sentence appropriately.

A 1. *Focus on what happened:* My computer was finally fixed by a colleague from the technical support staff. _____

_____ 2. *Focus on the architect:* The sculpture was designed by the famous architect Zaha Hadid. _____

_____ 3. *Focus on the task:* The Taglia engineering firm did the review on these building plans. _____

_____ 4. *Focus on the museum:* The Lima Art Museum obtained a new painting by Picasso. _____

_____ 5. *Focus on the architecture review:* A magazine published the architecture review of the Burj Khalifa. _____

C. Find sentences in the writing model on pages 2–3 that use the passive voice. What does each sentence focus on?

1. Passive sentence: *The Burj Khalifa's height is experienced best from inside.*
Sentence focus: *how tall the Burj Khalifa is*

2. Passive sentence: _____
Sentence focus: _____

3. Passive sentence: _____
Sentence focus: _____

4. Passive sentence: _____
Sentence focus: _____

5. Passive sentence: _____
Sentence focus: _____