

PASSIVE WITH REPORTING VERBS

Exercise 1. Rewrite the sentences starting with **It** plus a passive structure.

1. They felt that the cost was too high.
→
2. Forecasters have predicted that the weekend will be very cold.
→
3. They don't think that the government will call an early election.
→
4. Experts are suggesting that inflation will remain steady.
→
5. We had understood that the hostages would be released yesterday.
→
6. Officials have announced that the princess will leave hospital next week.
→

Exercise 2. Enter a suitable verb in the appropriate form.

announce · publish · consider · arrest · hide · escape

1. The minister is expected _____ his resignation tomorrow.
2. The government are understood _____ an early election.
3. They are thought _____ in a deserted cottage.
4. The couple had earlier been believed _____ from police custody.
5. The results of the survey are expected _____ next week.
6. Two people are reported _____ in connection with the robbery.

Exercise 3. Make passive sentences starting with the words in *italics*.

1. It is felt that *the project* is too expensive.
→
2. It was said that *the tax changes* helped poorer people.
→
3. It is alleged that *a fight between rival fans* broke out after the match.
→

4. It has been reported that *more bad weather* is on the way.
→
5. It was believed that *the company* were about to announce redundancies.
→
6. It was later considered that *his behaviour* had been unacceptable.
→
7. It is expected that *new supplies* will arrive soon.
→
8. It had been claimed that *the drug* was perfectly safe.
→

Task 4. Fill in each blank with ONE word.

It is said _____ (1) the only mammal naturally capable of true and sustained flight is the bat. Other mammals said _____ (2) fly, such as flying squirrels and gliding possums glide rather than fly, and can only glide for short distances.

Bats _____ (3) thought to represent about 20% of all classified mammal species worldwide and

_____ (4) are calculated to be about 1,240 bat species in the world. There _____

(5) sometimes thought to have been one single common bat ancestor, from which all bat species have evolved.

It _____ (6) believed that about 70% of bats are insectivores, with most of the rest thought _____ (7) be fruit eaters, and a very few carnivores. There _____ (8) thought to be bats in almost every habitat available on Earth, with the exception of the two polar regions. In many places they _____ (9) considered to play a vital role in pollinating seeds and controlling the numbers of insect pests.

It has _____ (10) contended that Kitt's hog-nosed bat is the smallest extant species of mammal, although claims have also been made for the Etruscan shrew. _____ (11) is generally agreed that the largest species of bat is the giant golden-crowned flying fox, which _____ (12) said to have a wingspan of 1.5 m.