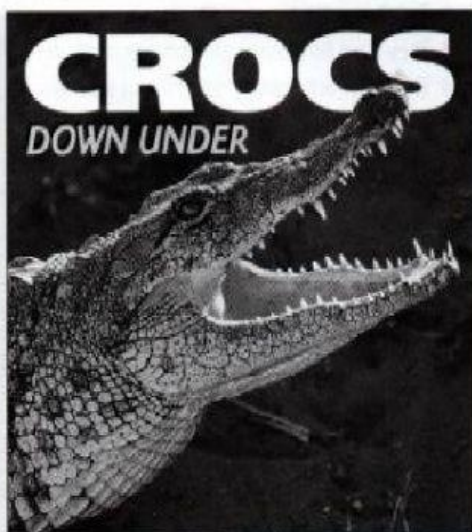


Practice

● The passive: present simple and past simple

1 > Complete the article, putting the verbs in brackets into the present simple passive or past simple passive.



Crocodiles or crocs are talked (talk) about a lot in Australia. Usually they ¹ (separate) into two types: saltwater crocs and freshwater crocs. Saltwater crocs ² (know) as 'salties' and freshwater crocs ³ (call) 'freshies'.

Salties, which can be five metres long, ⁴ (consider) much more

dangerous than freshies. Swimmers who ⁵ (catch) by a saltie, ⁶ (roll) around in the water until their necks ⁷ (break). Then the swimmer's body ⁸ (store) under some wood by the croc until it is soft enough for him to chew. Freshies are much smaller and swimming with them ⁹ (think) to be safe but a little scary.

Last year, by a river in the Australian outback, I ¹⁰ (tell) that there were no salties in the water, but just a few freshies.

¹¹ (people/ever/eat) by freshies?' I asked a croc expert nervously. It ¹² (explain) to me that freshies are vegetarian so I didn't need to worry. I ¹³ (encourage) by this so I put one foot in the water. At the last minute, I ¹⁴ (stop) by the croc expert who said, smiling, 'Actually I'm not sure if they're vegetarian or if they only eat vegetarians! You aren't a vegetarian, are you?' In the end I was so hot and the water looked so nice, I dived in. I'm pleased to say that I enjoyed my swim and my toes ¹⁵ (not bite) off!