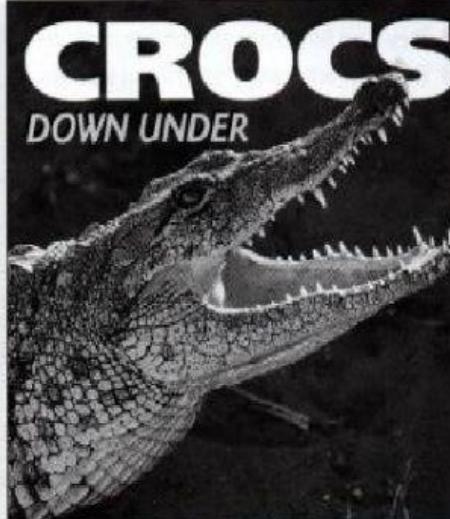


Practice

● 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!