

## GRAMMAR 2

# THE PASSIVE: IMPERSONAL & PERSONAL STRUCTURES

These verbs are often used in passive voice:

believe

consider

know

expect

say

report

suppose

think

### IMPERSONAL STRUCTURES

**it** + **passive verb** + **that** + **clause**

Many people believe that magazines should be cheaper. (active voice)

**It is believed that** magazines should be cheaper. (passive voice)

### PERSONAL STRUCTURES

**noun** + **passive verb** + **full infinitive**

Many people say that teenagers spend too much time surfing the Net. (active voice)

**Teenagers are said to** spend too much time surfing the Net. (passive voice)

Answer these tasks (Task 3 & 4 page 89)

3 Read the sentences and write **I** (for impersonal passive structure) or **P** (for personal structure).

- 1 He is considered to be one of the best journalists in the world. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 It is believed that this play was written by Shakespeare. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 The magazine is known to be informative and colourful. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 It is reported that there has been a decrease in the sale of newspapers. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 The columnist is supposed to be knowledgeable about fashion. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 Teenagers are believed to be the most frequent users of the Net. \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 The robber is said to be on the run from the police. \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 It is expected that this video will go viral. \_\_\_\_\_

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Complete the sentences using impersonal and personal passive structures.

1 People know that he stars on the big screen.

a It \_\_\_\_\_ he stars on the big screen.

b He \_\_\_\_\_ on the big screen.

2 People suppose that e-books are more environmentally friendly than printed books.

a It \_\_\_\_\_ e-books are more environmentally friendly than printed books.

b E-books \_\_\_\_\_ more environmentally friendly than printed books.

3 People say that the newspaper story is untrue.

a It \_\_\_\_\_ the newspaper story is untrue.

b The newspaper story \_\_\_\_\_ untrue.

4 People think that she is making a name for herself by being unusual.

a It \_\_\_\_\_ she is making a name for herself by being unusual.

b She \_\_\_\_\_ making a name for herself by being unusual.

5 People believe that attitudes towards the media are changing.

a It \_\_\_\_\_ attitudes towards the media are changing.

b Attitudes towards the media \_\_\_\_\_ changing.

6 People consider horoscopes to be fun and entertaining.

a It \_\_\_\_\_ horoscopes are fun and entertaining.

b Horoscopes \_\_\_\_\_ fun and entertaining.

7 People expect the film to win an award.

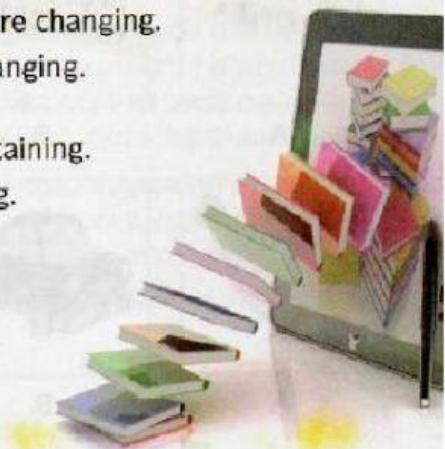
a It \_\_\_\_\_ the film will win an award.

b The film \_\_\_\_\_ an award.

8 People report that the newspaper is closing.

a It \_\_\_\_\_ the newspaper is closing.

b The newspaper \_\_\_\_\_ closing.



UNIT