

I was given ...

Look at these sentences.

Henry gave some flowers to Claire. Henry gave Claire some flowers.

An active sentence with a verb like **give** can have two different structures (see Unit 3).

If we use a passive sentence, either **some flowers** or **Claire** can be the subject.

Some flowers were given to Claire.

This is about the flowers, and it tells us who received them.

Claire was given some flowers.

This is about Claire, and it tells us what she received.

It is quite normal in English for a person to be the subject in a passive sentence like the one about Claire.

Mike was sent tickets for the concert. My wife is paid more than I am.

Andrew has been awarded a prize for his essay.

We can use the following verbs in this structure: **allow, award, feed, give, grant, hand, leave (in a will), lend, offer, owe, pay, promise, sell, send, show, teach**

Complete the sentences with the correct words from the dropdown menu

- Employees / yesterday the opportunity to buy the company's shares.
- Members of the staff / a bonus for good performance next month.
- Recently, our clients / to split their payment in three instalments.
- The sales manager / to have a promotion by the CMO.
- Parents / to bring their children on Fridays!
- The CEO just employees are about to go on strike.

It is said that ...



*It is **said** that Henry is in love with Claire.*

(= People say that Henry is in love with Claire.)

We can use the structure **it + passive verb + clause** with verbs of reporting. We use this structure when we cannot say or do not need to say who the speaker is, for example in news reports.

*It is **thought** that the company is planning a new advertising campaign.*

*It was **reported** that the President had suffered a heart attack.*

*It has **been agreed** that changes to the scheme are necessary.*

Here are some verbs we can use in this structure: agree, allege, announce, assure, believe, consider, decide, expect, explain, hope, know, report, say, suggest, suppose, think, understand

Complete the sentences with the correct words from the dropdown menu

1. It / yesterday the company was sold to a French group.
2. It / the HR team will be transferred to the 3rd floor.
3. Recently, it / that a new plant has been built for the new car model.
4. It / that the inflation will be lower than last year's.
5. It / that the staff needs a pay rise this semester.
6. It / the shareholders will be given their dividends early this first quarter.

He is said to ...

We can also use a subject + passive verb + to-infinitive.

*Henry **is said to be** in love with Claire.*

This structure is also used in news reports.

*United **were expected to win**.* (= People expected that they would win.)

*The company **is thought to be planning** a new advertising campaign.*

(= Someone thinks that it is planning a new advertising campaign.)

*The President **was reported to have suffered** a heart attack.*

(= Someone reported that he had suffered a heart attack.)

We can use the following verbs in this structure: believe, expect, find, know, report, say, think, understand

We often use **be supposed to** for things that people say.

*I might watch this programme. **It's supposed to be** very funny.*

Complete the sentences with the correct words from the dropdown menu

1. Employees / to clock in and out everyday.
2. Jack / to be the last one to leave the office everyday.
3. Our clients / to receive the invoice on the third day of the month.
4. The legal director / to have received a job offer from the competitor.
5. The training last week / to help us with the new payment system.
6. Carol / to be the next CFO of the company.