

## 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).

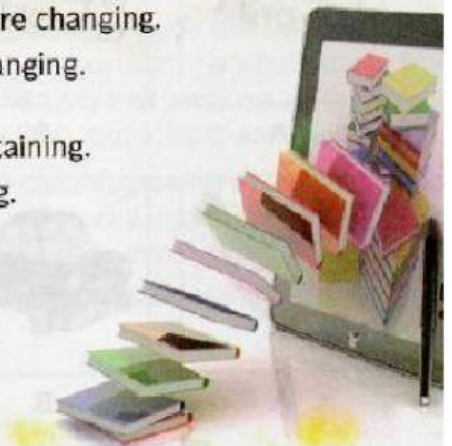
- 1 He is considered to be one of the best journalists in the world. —
- 2 It is believed that this play was written by Shakespeare. —
- 3 The magazine is known to be informative and colourful. —
- 4 It is reported that there has been a decrease in the sale of newspapers. —
- 5 The columnist is supposed 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.



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