

1 Complete the story using the correct past tense form of the verbs. Use both active and passive forms.

Most people ¹ _____ (hear) of Richard Branson – head of the Virgin Group – and his business success. But not many people know about his love of April Fools' jokes*. In 2011, an article ² _____ (be / publish) on the Virgin website announcing that Branson ³ _____ (just / buy) the planet Pluto. In 2013, he ⁴ _____ (reveal) that his company ⁵ _____ (work) for some time on a glass-bottomed plane so passengers could look down at the scenery while they ⁶ _____ (fly). The story ⁷ _____ (be / pick) up by several media agencies. He ⁸ _____ (even / play) an April Fools' joke on the British police. In 1989, they ⁹ _____ (be / call) to a field near London, where several people ¹⁰ _____ (report) seeing a UFO. The officers ¹¹ _____ (not / expect) to find anything unusual, so they were shocked to see a silver flying saucer in the field. (In fact it was a hot air balloon that ¹² _____ (be / make) to look like a UFO.) They were even more surprised when a figure in a silver suit ¹³ _____ (step) out of it!

* On April 1st it is traditional in the UK to play practical jokes on people (with untrue stories)

