

PERSONAL AND IMPERSONAL PASSIVE

ACTIVE VOICE

They say women live longer than men.

IMPERSONAL PASSIVE

It is said that women live longer than men.

PERSONAL PASSIVE

Women are said to live longer than men.

HOW TO CHANGE FROM ACTIVE TO PASSIVE PERSONAL AND IMPERSONAL ACCORDING TO THE TENSES?

PRESENT

People claim that the Mona Lisa is the most famous painting in the world

- First, we observe the tense of the verbs. In this case we have a Simple Present “claim” plus another Simple Present “is”.
- We can make two different Passive Structures:



Impersonal Passive

- We place “It” as the subject.
- We make the normal Passive in the first verb. The rest of the sentence doesn't change:

It is claimed that the Mona Lisa is the most famous painting in the world.

Personal Passive

- We use the Second Subject as the Subject for our Passive Sentence.
- We make the normal Passive in the first verb.
- When the second verb is a Simple Present or a Simple Future, we add an infinitive + to:

The Mona Lisa is claimed to be the most famous painting in the world".



MORE EXAMPLES

Experts believe that it is an important discovery

- **It is believed that it is an important discovery**
- **It is believed to be an important discovery**

They say that she lies all the time

- **It is said that she lies all the time**
- **She is said to lie all the time**



WHAT ABOUT THE PRESENT PROGRESSIVE?

They think she is writing a book

- **It is thought she is writing a book**
- **She is thought to be writing a book**

PRESENT PERFECT?

They think she has written a book

- **She is thought to have written a book**



PAST

They think that you lived in London

Impersonal

- Remember we use “It” as a subject and change the first verb into the Passive Voice. The rest of the sentence doesn't change:

It's thought that you lived in London

Personal

- As the second verb is a Past Tense, we change it into a Perfect Infinitive “to have lived”.

You are thought to have lived in London



MORE EXAMPLES

People believe that John Lennon was a great musician

- **It's believed that John Lennon was a great musician**
- **John Lennon is thought to have been a great musician**

They say that Michael studied many years on his own

- **It's said that Michael studied many years on his own**
 - **Michael is said to have studied a lot on his own**



WHAT ABOUT THE PAST PROGRESSIVE?

People think that the government was building new schools

Impersonal

It's thought that the government was building new schools

Personal

- You know we use the second subject as the main one and change the first verb into the Passive Voice. We change the Progressive Past into a Progressive Perfect Infinitive “to have been building”

The government is thought to have been building new schools



WHAT ABOUT THE PAST PERFECT?

- This tense follows the same pattern presented in the simple past because both started in the past and finished or are not longer happening in the present

They think that you lived in London

They think that you had lived in London

Impersonal

It is thought that you had lived in London

Personal

You are thought to have lived in London



FUTURE

They believe that the factory will make profit soon

Impersonal

It's believed that the factory will make profit soon

Personal

- We use the second subject and change the first verb into the Passive Voice
- When the second verb in the Passive Structure is a Simple Present or a Simple Future, we change it into a To Infinitive:

The factory is believed to make profit soon



WHAT ABOUT THE FUTURE PERFECT?

They say that **he will have delivered** all the newspapers
by 8 o'clock

impersonal

It is said that he will have delivered all...

Personal

- This tense follows the same pattern shown in the Present Perfect tense:

He is said to have delivered all the newspapers by 8 o'clock

What makes different the Future Perfect from the Present Perfect is the time expression .



MORE EXAMPLES

They think that Mike will finish his project soon

Impersonal

It's thought that Mike will finish his project soon

Personal

Mike is thought to finish his project soon

Scientists claim that their research will have shown important clues by the next year.

Impersonal

It's claimed that the research will have shown important clues by the next year

Personal

The research is claimed to have shown important...by the next year



NOTE:

The Present Perfect continuous

The Past Perfect Continuous

The Future Continuous and

The Future Perfect Continuous

DO NOT HAVE PASSIVE STRUCTURES



LOT OF THINGS TO STUDY



THANK YOU

