

REPORTING PASSIVES

B2 | Teens / Adults | Grammar Practice | 35-45 minutes

Learn and practise | Present reported information with impersonal and personal passive patterns.

1. READ: A rumour about an old cinema

Read the conversation. Notice the bold grammar and how the speakers use it.

Ada: Have you heard the old cinema might reopen?
Felix: Yes. **It's believed that** a local group has bought it.
Ada: Is that confirmed?
Felix: Not yet. The building **is said to need** major repairs.
Ada: Then reopening could take a while.
Felix: The owners **are reported to have applied** for funding, but nothing's confirmed.

2. GRAMMAR: Reported claims, not guaranteed facts

Use It is said/believed that... or subject + is said/believed + to-infinitive to report a claim.

Use / form	Pattern	Example
Impersonal	It is said that + clause	It is said that it needs repairs.
Same-time claim	subject + is said + to	It is said to need repairs.
Earlier event	subject + is said + to have	They are said to have applied.

Earlier event: People say he left -> He is said to have left.

Other verbs: believed, thought, reported, expected. Check the source of the claim.

A reporting passive does not prove the information is true.

A. CHOOSE

Circle the correct option in each sentence.

1. It is believed that / to the cinema will reopen.
2. The building is said need / to need repairs.
3. The owners are report / reported to be abroad.
4. He is said to have left / leave yesterday.
5. They are thought to be / being ready.
6. It is reported that / what funding is available.
7. She is believed to have paid / pay last week.
8. The hall is expected reopen / to reopen soon.

Read each answer aloud. Explain which meaning or time clue helped you.

REPORTING PASSIVES

B2 | Teens / Adults | Grammar Practice | 35-45 minutes

Use it | Complete a context, write sentences and speak with a partner.

B. COMPLETE: Claims about a cinema

Complete the reporting passive or the infinitive. Use a perfect infinitive for an earlier event.

1. It _____ (believe) that a local group owns the cinema.
2. The building _____ (say) to need major repairs.
3. The owners are reported _____ (apply) for funding last month.
4. The reopening _____ (expect) to happen next year.
5. It _____ (report) that the roof is unsafe.
6. The cinema is believed _____ (close) in 1998.

C. CHANGE THE SENTENCES

1-2: Rewrite with It is said that.

Example: People say the roof leaks. **It is said that the roof leaks.**

1. People say the shop is closing.
2. People say the plan is ready.

3-4: Rewrite with a personal reporting passive. Example: People say she left. **She is said to have left.**

3. People say he lives abroad.
4. People say she left yesterday.

D. WRITE ABOUT YOU

Write three imaginary news claims. Use both passive patterns and mark one event as earlier.

Example: **It is believed that the site is safe. The owner is said to have sold it last year.**

E. SPEAK WITH A PARTNER

Discuss a fictional development in your town. Report three claims, then question their sources.

Ask **Who reported that?** and **Has it been confirmed?**

REPORTING PASSIVES

B2 | Teens / Adults | Grammar Practice | 35-45 minutes

Answer key | Keep this page separate during student practice.

1. READ: A rumour about an old cinema

Sample target language from the conversation:

Felix: Yes. **It's believed that** a local group has bought it.

Felix: Not yet. The building **is said to need** major repairs.

Felix: The owners **are reported to have applied** for funding, but nothing's confirmed.

A. CHOOSE

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. that | 2. to need |
| 3. reported | 4. have left |
| 5. be | 6. that |
| 7. have paid | 8. to reopen |

B. COMPLETE: Claims about a cinema

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. is believed | 2. is said |
| 3. to have applied | 4. is expected |
| 5. is reported | 6. to have closed |

C. CHANGE THE SENTENCES

1. It is said that the shop is closing.
2. It is said that the plan is ready.
3. He is said to live abroad.
4. She is said to have left yesterday.

D. WRITE ABOUT YOU / E. SPEAK

Personal answers will vary. Check the target grammar.

Sample: It is said that a new park is planned. The site is believed to be suitable. The council is reported to have bought it.

Teacher note: Teach the perfect infinitive for earlier events without claiming it is simply a past tense. Keep factual claims fictional unless independently checked.