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| Passive Voice: Complex Passives | | |
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| **FORM** | ***It* + passive + *that* clause**  *or*  **Subject + passive + *to i*nfinitive clause**  **(other than *It* )** |  |
| **USE**  **EXAMPLES** | The **complex passive** is used in formal written or spoken English. It can be used to create an impersonal tone and to express information that has not been verified as true. The **complex passive** can also be used to express past beliefs that are not seen as true now, or general expectations about the future. The “***IT”+ passive*** form is often used to introduce a topic because new information appears at the end of the sentence. The “***passive + to infinitive***” form is often used when the subject is known from a previous mention. The infinitive in the independent clause must be perfective if the event in the clause occurred in the past and the main clause is in the present tense.(*Example 2*)  To form the second type of complex passive: change the subject of the *that* clause (“**all students**”) to the subject of the main clause. The verb may have to change to agree with the subject. The *that* clause changes to an infinitive clause.  *1. It is expected that* ***all students******complete*** *assignments on time*.  (singular verb)  ***All students*** *are expected* ***to complete*** *assignments on time.*  *(plural verb)*  *2. It is known that* ***British soldiers played*** *an early form of ice hockey in Canada.*  *(singular verb)*  ***British soldiers*** *are known* ***to have played*** *an early form of ice hockey in Canada.*  *(plural verb) (perfective verb)* | |

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| *Rewrite each statement using the complex passive. Use either the IT or TO INFINITIVE form.* |

***Example:*** *People believed the president was dishonest.*

The president was believed to be dishonest. ***or*** It was believed that the president was dishonest.

1. The weather forecaster expects the weather to be cold and rainy all week.

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1. People think the Great White shark is the most dangerous creature in the sea.

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1. Some doctors say that taking aspirin every day is good for your heart.

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1. Scientists know that diamonds are the hardest material in nature.

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1. Some people believe that Big Foot lives in the Rocky Mountains.

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1. Superstitious people think that a black cat walking across your path brings bad luck.

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*Change the following passive complex sentences from the IT + PASSIVE + THAT CLAUSE form to SUBJECT + PASSIVE + TO INFINITIVE form or vice versa.*

1. The first wrist watch is believed to have been worn by Queen Elizabeth I in 1571.

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2. It is known that Vitamin C prevents colds.

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1. Canadians are often said to be easy-going and friendly.

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1. The bank manager is reported to have stolen $1 million from the bank.

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5. It is expected that Mr. Jennings will win the election.

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6. The Loch Ness Monster is said to live in a lake in Scotland.

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7. It is sometimes assumed that all Canadians love skiing and skating.

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