

Total English

Advanced

A question of passives!

- 1 Use one of the verbs in the box below to fill in the gaps in the sentences. You will need to change the form of the verb in each sentence!

discover agree say hand complete allow report start

- a) Did you know that chewing gum isn't _____ at the new school in the town?
- b) A new plant was _____ in the rainforest recently that could form the base of a cure for some common ailments.
- c) It is _____ that the football team has great potential and will be promoted to the league above next season.
- d) My maths teacher was really annoyed when all the assignments were _____ in three days late.
- e) The young teenager has such an amazing voice, it's _____ that around five record companies want to give her a record deal.
- f) It has been _____ that parents will not allow their children to watch TV after 9pm on school nights.
- g) Despite the theatre director's concerns, the stage scenery was _____ on time almost five days before the play began.
- h) My sister is extremely organised and all the arrangements for her wedding were _____ at least a year before the actual day!

- 2 **Challenges! Imagine that you and your partner are reporting on a challenge that someone has overcome. Choose a 'challenge' from the list below or choose your own.**

- climbing a mountain
- swimming or sailing a long distance
- overcoming a challenge in work life
- encountering a challenge in family life
- encountering a challenge in education

Now write two paragraphs describing how the challenge was dealt with and overcome by the person. Use the following passive structures.

- It is believed that.....
- It is said that.....
- It was claimed that.....
- It/He/She was thought to.....
- It/He/She was reported to.....



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TEACHER'S NOTES:

Aim: to provide further practice of passives. This worksheet is designed to be used in conjunction with unit 1.2.

Time: 40 minutes

Materials: photocopies of the worksheet for each student

- 1 Ask students to read the sentences and fill in a verb from the box in the correct form. Check answers with the class.

Answers: a) allowed b) discovered c) said/reported d) handed
e) said/reported f) agreed g) completed h) started

- 2 Put students into pairs and ask each pair to choose a challenging situation. There are some listed in the exercise for students to choose from or they can choose their own. Students write two paragraphs describing how the person faced the challenging situation and how they overcame it. Monitor whilst they work and encourage students to use key vocabulary from the unit where they can. Also check that students incorporate around four passive structures as listed in the exercise. Ask students to swap with the pair next to them at the end of the activity.

