Passive Reporting Structures Worksheet: It Is Said That

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NAME

DATE

Remember

Form	Example
It + passive verb + that + clause	It is said that the hotel is haunted.
Subject + passive verb + to + infinitive	The hotel is said to be haunted.
to have + participle: an earlier action	He is thought to have left the country.
Common verbs: say, believe, think, know, report, expect, consider	She is expected to win.

Typical mistakes

× Learners often say	✓ Say instead
It is said the president to resign.	It is said that the president will resign. / The president is said to be resigning.
He is believed that he lives in Spain.	He is believed to live in Spain. / It is believed that he lives in Spain.
She is thought to leave yesterday.	She is thought to have left yesterday.

1. Rewrite

Rewrite each sentence starting with the words given.

1. People say that the castle is 800 years old. → The castle _____

2. People believe the thief escaped through a window. → It _____

3. Experts expect prices to rise. → Prices _____

4. People think that he is the richest man in the city. → He _____

5. Reports say that the singer cancelled the tour. → The singer _____

6. People know that the area is dangerous at night. → It _____

7. People consider her the best player in the world. → She _____

8. Everyone thinks the company lost millions. → The company _____

2. Choose

Circle the correct option.

1. He is said (to be / that he is) very generous.
2. It is (believed / believing) that the ship sank in a storm.
3. The suspect is thought (to leave / to have left) the city last night.
4. The new bridge is expected (to open / opening) next year.
5. It (is reported / reports) that two people were injured.
6. She is known (to have / that she has) a terrible temper.
7. The minister is said to (be resigning / resign) as we speak.
8. (It is / There is) thought that the virus came from bats.

3. Correct the mistakes

Each sentence has one mistake. Write it correctly.

1. The castle is said that it is haunted.

2. It is believe that he is innocent.

3. He is thought to steal the painting in 2010.

4. The singer is reported be in hospital.

5. Is said that the food here is excellent.

6. The company is expected announcing new jobs.

Writing

Write a short news report (6 sentences) about a mysterious event in your town: a missing statue, a strange light, a famous visitor. Use at least four passive reporting structures.

Speaking

- What is your city or country said to be famous for?
- Tell me about a legend from your country: what is it said to have happened?
- Which famous person is believed to be very generous, rude or difficult?
- What are prices or technology expected to do in the next few years?

Answer key

1. Rewrite: 1 The castle is said to be 800 years old. · 2 It is believed that the thief escaped through a window. · 3 Prices are expected to rise. · 4 He is thought to be the richest man in the city. · 5 The singer is reported to have cancelled the tour. · 6 It is known that the area is dangerous at night. · 7 She is considered (to be) the best player in the world. · 8 The company is thought to have lost millions.

2. Choose: 1 to be · 2 believed · 3 to have left · 4 to open · 5 is reported · 6 to have · 7 be resigning · 8 It is

3. Correct the mistakes: 1 The castle is said to be haunted. / It is said that the castle is haunted. · 2 It is believed that he is innocent. · 3 He is thought to have stolen the painting in 2010. · 4 The singer is reported to be in hospital. · 5 It is said that the food here is excellent. · 6 The company is expected to announce new jobs.

Writing, model answer: A famous bronze statue has disappeared from the main square. It is believed that it was removed on Saturday night. The thieves are thought to have used a small crane. The statue is said to be worth more than a million euros. It is reported that a white van was seen nearby. The police are expected to give more details tomorrow.