**Passive voice**

**Change these active sentences to passive. Choose if you need the agent or not.**

1. The Government is planning a new road near my house.
2. My grandfather built this house in 1943.
3. Picasso was painting Guernica at that time.
4. The cleaner has cleaned the office.
5. He had written three books before 1867.
6. By this time tomorrow we will have signed the deal.
7. Somebody should do the work.
8. The traffic might have delayed Jimmy.
9. People speak Portuguese in Brazil.
10. They are building a new stadium near the station.
11. I had cleaned all the windows before the storm.
12. A workman will repair the computer tomorrow.
13. James might cook dinner.
14. Somebody must have taken my wallet.

**Impersonal passive**

The impersonal passive has two forms:

*it* + *be* + past participle + (*that*) + subject + verb:

***It is estimated that****millions of people visit the site every year.****It is believed that****the walls date from the third century BCE.****It is reported that****mosquitoes transmit the disease.*

someone/something + *be* + past participle + infinitive:

*Millions of people are estimated to visit the site every year.  
The walls are believed to date from the third century BCE.  
Mosquitoes are reported to transmit the disease.*

Note that the infinitive can be simple (as above), perfect (for a past action) or continuous (for an action in progress).

*Millions are estimated to visit the site this year.* (simple infinitive)  
*The walls are believed to have been built in the third century BCE.* (perfect infinitive)  
*Mosquitoes are reported to be transmitting the disease.* (continuous infinitive)

1. When I went back there, someone had planted trees along the road. When I went back there, trees \_\_\_\_\_ along the road.

1. had been planted
2. had planted
3. had planted people

Bottom of Form

2. The police think the robbers escaped through an air vent. The robbers \_\_\_\_\_ through an air vent.

1. are believed to be escaping
2. are believed to escape
3. are believed to have escaped

Bottom of Form

3. Most people fear having other people laughing at them. \_\_\_\_\_ is something most people fear.

1. Be laugh at by other people
2. Being laughed at by other people
3. Being laughed by other people

Bottom of Form

4. They could definitely improve access to the festival. Access to the festival \_\_\_\_\_.

1. could definitely be improve
2. could definitely be improved
3. could to definitely be improve

Bottom of Form

5. Experts estimate that 1.35 billion people speak English. \_\_\_\_\_ speak English.

1. 1.35 billion people are estimated to
2. Are estimated 1.35 billion people
3. It is estimate that 1.35 billion people

Bottom of Form

6. They made many people redundant, some of whom had worked there for years. Many people \_\_\_\_\_ redundant, some of whom had worked there for years.

1. been made
2. got made
3. was made

Bottom of Form

7. They have made preparations for the big event. Preparations \_\_\_\_\_ for the big event.

1. have been made
2. have being made
3. have made

Bottom of Form

8. People said the creatures came out at night. The creatures \_\_\_\_\_ out at night.

1. are said to have come
2. were come
3. were said to come

Bottom of Form

REWRITE THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES. IMPERSONAL PASSIVE

1. People know that she is a good swimmer.

It \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

She \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. They say that Francis is in hospital.

It \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Francis \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. They think that the children are in bed.

It \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The children \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. People believe that the robber has worked in the bank.

It \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The robber \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. People believe that nuclear power stations are dangerous.

It \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Nuclear power stations \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. His colleagues thought that he was on holiday.

It \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

He \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. People know that cars pollute the environment.

It \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cars \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. They suppose that the new product will come out soon.

It \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

the new product \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. They believe that she will win a gold medal.

It \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

She \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_