

PASSIVE - Emerson

Form:

Intel produces millions of chips every year.	Millions of chips _____ every year.
Our supplier is shipping the goods next week.	The goods _____ next week.
The government raised interest rates by 1%.	Interest rates _____ by 1%.
He was asking me some difficult questions.	I _____ some difficult questions.
They have chosen the new design.	The new design _____.
Rosa will give a press briefing tomorrow.	A press briefing _____ tomorrow.
We can arrange a loan within six days.	A loan _____ within six days.
We may give you some new sales targets.	You _____ some new sales targets.

Source: Business Grammar Builder. Emerson, p. 49

⇒ **TASK Complete the following text with the correct forms of the verbs in brackets.**

Manchester United: just a game of football?

Manchester United **is supposed to have** 1. / SUPPOSE, HAVE/ between 10 million and 30 million supporters throughout the world. In Norway, for example, one in every 140 people 2. _____ /SAY, BE/ a registered supporter. Ticket sales and merchandising contribute over half of the club’s revenue, with television contributing a further 20%.

But senior executives 3. _____ / KNOW, LOOK AT/ other ways to generate income at the moment. For example, the club 4. _____ / BELIEVE, DEVELOP/ e-commerce initiatives through a series of alliances. Costs at the club continue to increase. A few years ago the club 5. _____ / REPORT, SPEND/ £30m on a plan to expand the capacity of the stadium from 55,000 seats to 67,400 seats. But this 6. _____ / THINK, BE/ a good investment as it will generate nearly £7.5 million in additional turnover annually. The main costs at the club are the salaries for the players. Last year the team’s captain 7. _____ /UNDERSTAND, NEGOTIATE/ four-year contract worth over eight figures.

Source: Business Grammar Builder. Emerson, p. 48

⇒ TASK Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence.

1 David Gill from Marketing lent me this book.

I was given this book by DG from Marketing.

2 This sample was given to me at the Trade Fair.

_____ this sample at the Trade Fair.

3 They promised us delivery within two weeks of our order.

We _____ within two weeks of our order.

4 A textile firm near Milan made this fabric to us.

_____ for us by a textile firm near Milan.

5 This order was sent to us through our website.

_____ this order through our website.

6 My secretary booked the flight for me.

_____ for me by my secretary.

Murphy, Unit 43

✍ I don't like being...

⇒ TASK Rewrite the following sentences so that the bottom one means the same as the top one.

1 I remember somebody gave me a toy drum for my fifth birthday.

I remember _____ .

2 Mr Miller hates when people keep him waiting.

Mr Miller _____ .

3 We managed to climb the over the wall without anybody seeing us.

We managed _____ .

✍ Sometimes you can use *get* instead of *be* in the passive.

⇒ TASK Using the word *get* rewrite the following sentences so that the bottom one means the same as the top one.

1 There was a fight at the party but nobody was hurt.

There was a fight at the party but nobody _____ .

2 I'm not often invited to parties.

I don't often _____ to parties.

✍ Practise this structure: (Murphy U 44)

He is very old. Nobody knows exactly how old he is, but:
It is said that he is 108 years old. ⇒ He is said to be 108 years old.

You can use this structure with a number of other verbs, especially:

thought, believed, considered, reported, known, expected, alleged, understood

<i>Cathy works very hard.</i> It is said that she works 16 hours a day.	She_____.
<i>The police are looking for a missing boy.</i> It is believed that the boy is wearing a white pullover and blue jeans.	The boy_____.
<i>The strike started three weeks ago.</i> It is expected that it will end soon.	The strike_____.
<i>A friend of mine has been arrested.</i> It is alleged that he kicked a policeman.	He_____.

✍ Have something done (Murphy U45)

⇒TASK Complete the sentence using the verbs printed in capital letters in the last column and additional information in brackets.

Jil		the roof		yesterday.	REPAIR
Where		your hair			CUT
Your hair looks nice.		it			CUT
Julia		central heating		in her house.	(just) INSTALL
How often		your car			SERVICE
I think you should		that coat		soon.	CLEAN
I don't like		my photograph			HAVE