

<p>Said to be</p> <p>There is a small group of verbs often used in a particular way as shown below:</p> <p>"People think he was involved in the murder of a banker." is better as: "He is thought to have been involved in the murder of a banker."</p> <p>"People believe that the seventh child of a seventh child has special powers ." -> "The seventh child of a seventh child is believed to have special powers."</p>	<p>Verbs used like this are: to think, to believe, to say, to know, to report, to expect - e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Whales are known to be able to communicate over long distances under water." • "Da Vinci is known to have made many drawings which have been lost." <p>Notice the use of different tenses:</p> <p>A) "The escaped prisoner is believed to be in London." (People think he's still there.) B) "The escaped prisoner is believed to have been in London." (He's probably left.)</p>
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Read the sentences below to your partner, who should say back the version on the right!

1	Some people say that Shakespeare's works were actually written by someone else.
2	Most people believe that horseshoes bring good luck.
3	Psychologists know that people behave unpredictably when placed under great stress.
4	It is believed that he lived in that house for a while.
5	It is expected that smallpox will have been eradicated within 20 years.
6	It is believed that the President is seriously ill.
7	It is generally accepted that obesity is a leading factor in poor health.
8	Everyone expects the interest rate to be raised.
9	People expect that inflation will increase in the near future.
10	People thought at one time that Marlon Brando was planning a return to the screen.
11	People say that his heavy drinking was the main reason for his failure.
12	The last report said that the astronauts were orbiting the moon.
13	It is said that aboriginals can track any animal.
14	People know that politicians never answer a question directly.
15	Someone has reported that Merkel and Hollande have reached an agreement in Paris.
16	It is thought that the police are looking for a man with one eye.
17	It is known that Russian scientists have carried out similar experiments.
18	It is reported that a cure for ebola has been found.
19	Everyone knows that he has stolen government money.
20	There is a rumour going around that Elvis has been seen in Dallas.
21	It is feared that the terrorists have escaped.
22	People say that love is blind.
23	It is believed that the acceleration in the melting of the ice-caps is increasing.
24	Everyone knows that a good diet and exercise are essential for good health.
25	They think the missing spacecraft has crashed onto the surface of Mars.
26	It is believed that the black hole at the centre of the galaxy is expanding.

1	Shakespeare's works are said to have been written by someone else.
2	Horseshoes are believed to bring good luck.
3	People are known to behave unpredictably when placed under great stress.
4	He is believed to have lived in that house for a while.
5	Smallpox is expected to have been eradicated within 20 years.
6	The President is believed to be seriously ill.
7	Obesity is generally accepted to be a leading factor in poor health.
8	The interest rate is expected to be raised.
9	Inflation is expected to increase in the near future.
10	Marlon Brando was at one time thought to have been planning a return to the screen.
11	His heavy drinking is said to have been the main reason for his failure.
12	The astronauts were last reported to be orbiting the moon.
13	Aborigines are said to be able to track any animal.
14	Politicians are known never to answer a question directly.
15	Merkel and Hollande are reported to have reached an agreement in Paris.
16	The police are thought to be looking for a man with one eye. (Why not use BOTH eyes?)
17	Russian scientists are known to have carried out similar experiments.
18	A cure for ebola is reported to have been found.
19	He is (well) known to have stolen government money.
20	Elvis is rumoured to have been seen in Dallas.
21	The terrorists are feared to have escaped.
22	Love is said to be blind.
23	The acceleration in the melting of the ice-caps is believed to be increasing.
24	A good diet and exercise are known to be essential for good health.
25	The missing spacecraft is thought to have crashed onto the surface of Mars.
26	The black hole at the centre of the galaxy is believed to be expanding.