

◆ LE COMPLEMENT D'OBJET EST UNE PROPOSITION :

Ex : THINK, BELIEVE, SAY, KNOW, PRESUME, SUPPOSE, etc...

Il y a deux constructions possibles :

a) Passif à sujet impersonnel (IT) où la proposition reste complément.

They thought (that) Britain ruled the world. => *It was thought (that) Britain ruled the world.*

b) Le sujet de la proposition complément devient sujet de la proposition passive et le verbe de cette proposition se met à l'infinitif avec TO

They thought (that) Britain ruled the world. => *Britain was thought to rule the world.*
 S1 Vb1 S2 Vb2 S2 Vb1 Vb2

Experts believe white rhinos are facing extinction. => *White rhinos are believed to be facing extinction.*
 S1 Vb1 S2 Vb2 S2 Vb1 Vb2

They say computers have changed our lives. => *Computers are said to have changed our lives.*
 S1 Vb1 S2 Vb2 S2 Vb1 Vb2

◆ VERBES DE PERCEPTION : moins importants en anglais scientifique

On applique la règle b) ci-dessus

We saw him cross the street. => *He was seen to cross the street.*
 où *him* est COD de SEE
 et SUJET de CROSS

3. PASSIFS TRONQUES : c'est-à-dire incomplets : il ne subsiste que le PARTICIPE PASSE

Birds and mammals excrete a substance which is called urea => Birds and mammals excrete a substance called urea.

De nombreux participes passés sont employés ainsi dans les textes scientifiques. Leur construction est voisine de celle des participes passés employés comme adjectifs.

4. EXERCICE

Complétez le tableau suivant :

1. This has cut short the applause.	=>
2. The rest use gasohol.	=>
3.	<=	188,000 b/d should have been produced.
4. That excludes capital cost.	=>
5. The buyers selected petrol engine cars.	=>
6.	<=	Its hopes of exporting its ethanol to the US was dashed by anti-subsidy import duties.
7. Brazil will produce 11b litres of ethanol yearly.	=>
8.	<=	The equivalent cost is estimated to be \$37m.
9. The scheme has created 800,000 jobs.	=>
10. Brazil should have saved around \$1.7m.	=>
11.	<=	Ethanol production will be cut.
12.	<=	Why do cars have to be fuelled with ethanol?