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## **Reported Speech (1)**

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## Direct Speech/ Reported Speech

**Definition:** Reported speech, also known as indirect speech, is used to report or convey what someone else has said without quoting their exact words. It is commonly used in written and spoken communication to report conversations, statements, or information from one person to another.

### 1. Key Concepts:

#### Direct Speech vs. Reported Speech:

- **Direct Speech:** In direct speech, the exact words of the speaker are enclosed in quotation marks. For example: He said, "I am going to the store."
- **Reported Speech:** In reported speech, we convey what the speaker said without quoting their exact words. For example: He said that he was going to the store.

**Note 1/ In order to convert the direct (quoted) speech into an indirect (reported) speech, do the following:**

1. Omit the comma and the inverted commas.
2. Use 'that' as a conjunction.
3. Change the pronouns, adjective pronouns according to the speaker.
4. Make backshift of time (Only when the reporting verb in the past)
  - She said, "I like ice-cream." → She said that she liked ice-cream.
  - She says, "I like ice-cream." → She says that she likes ice-cream.

### 2. Changes in Pronouns:

<b>Subject Pronouns</b>	<b>Object Pronouns</b>	<b>Possessive Adjective</b>	<b>Possessive Pronouns</b>
He	Him	His	His
She	Her	Her	Hers
It	It	Its	Its
I	Me	My	Mine
We	Us	Our	Ours
You	You	Your	Yours

They	Them	their	Theirs
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She said, "he's **my** son"      She said that he was **her** son

"**I'm** ill", she said."       $\Rightarrow$       She said that **she** was ill.

### 3. Changes in Adverbs of time, place and demonstratives:

Adverbs and adverbial phrases of time change as follows:

DIRECT SPEECH	INDIRECT SPEECH
Today	that day
Yesterday	the day before
the day before	yesterday two days before
tomorrow the next day	the following day
the day after tomorrow	in two day's time
next week/year etc.	following week/year etc.
last week/year etc. the	the previous week/year etc.
a year etc. ago	the previous year/ a year before
Ago	Before
now	Then
Tonight	that night
last month	the month before
here	There
this	that
These	those

-“I saw her the day *before yesterday*”, he said       $\Rightarrow$       He said he'd seen her *two days before*.

-“I'll do it *tomorrow*”, he promised.       $\Rightarrow$       He promised that he would do it *the next day*.

-She said, “My father died *a year ago*”.       $\Rightarrow$       She said that her father had died *a year before/the previous year*.

-“I'll meet you *here*,” he said.       $\Rightarrow$       He said that he would meet me *there*.

-She said, “She's coming *this week*”       $\Rightarrow$       She said that she was coming *that week*.

-she said to them " you have to do your home work and I will give you good mark today".  $\Rightarrow$  She said to them that they had to do their home work and she would give them a good mark that day.

#### 4. Changes in Verb Tenses:

DIRECT SPEECH	INDIRECT SPEECH
<b>Simple Present</b> "I never eat meat", he explained.	<b>Simple Past</b> He explained (that) he never ate meat.
<b>Present Continuous</b> "I'm waiting for Ann", he said.	<b>Past Continuous</b> He said (that) he was waiting for Ann.
<b>Present Perfect</b> "I have found a flat", he said.	<b>Past Perfect</b> He said (that) he had found a flat.
<b>Present Perfect Continuous</b> He said, "I've been waiting for ages".	<b>Past Perfect Continuous</b> He said (that) he had been waiting for ages
<b>Simple Past</b> "I took it home with me", she said.	<b>Past Perfect</b> She said (that) he had taken it home with her
<b>Future</b> He said, "I will/shall be in Paris on Monday".	<b>Conditional</b> He said (that) he would be in Paris on Monday.
<b>Future Continuous</b> "I will/shall be using the car myself on the 24h", she said.	<b>Conditional Continuous</b> She said (that) she'd been using the car herself on the 24th.
<b>Conditional</b> I said, "I would like to see it".	<b>Conditional</b> I said (that) I would like to see it.

#### More examples:

-He said, "I feel sad." He said that he felt sad.

-He said, "I work in the garden." → He said, " I worked in the garden."

-He said that he worked in the garden. → He said that he had worked in the garden.

-He said, "I am working in the garden." → He said that he was working in the garden.

-He said, "I was working in the garden." → He said that he had been working in the garden.

**Note 2 / If the sentence contains more than one verb, the change of time is only on the first verb.**

-Sami said, "I shall travel tomorrow." →Sami said that he would travel the following day.

-Nada said: "I have to do my homework." → Nada said that she had to do her homework.

-She said, "I will call you tomorrow." → She said that she would call me the next day.

-She says, "I will call you tomorrow." → She says that she will call me the next day.

-She said, "I may be late." → She said that she might be late.

-She said, "Tara can't swim." → She said that Tara couldn't swim.

-She said, "Salma is living here with us." → She said that Salma was living there with them.

## 5. Reporting Verbs:

• Different reporting verbs can be used to convey the speaker's attitude or the level of certainty about what was said. Examples include:

• Say, tell, ask, explain, suggest, claim, admit, promise, etc.

• Each of these verbs may be followed by different patterns in reported speech.

### Examples:

1-Direct Speech: She said, "I love this book."

Reported Speech: She said that she loved that book.

2.Direct Speech: They asked, "Are you coming to the party?"

Reported Speech: They asked if I was coming to the party.

3. Direct Speech: He said, "I have finished my homework."

Reported Speech: He said that he had finished his homework.

**Note 3/** If the reporting verb was present simple, we do not change anything between the quotation mark, and we change only the pronoun to the subject of the reporting verb, even adverb and time expressions stay as them

-She **said**, "I like ice-cream." → She said that she **liked** ice-cream.

-She **says**, "I like ice-cream." → She says that she **likes** ice-cream.

-I say to you, "be quiet and stay here." → I tell you to be quiet and stay here.

**They** declare, "The teacher will punish us." → They declare that the teacher will punish **them**.

**Note 4/** Many main verbs have the same form of the auxiliary verb but their meanings are different, and other irregular verb have the same form in the present and past:

-He **had** his lunch → He **had** had his lunch.

-He **cut** his hand → He **had** cut his hand

**Note 5/** When the sentence between two quotation marks is a fact, we do not change anything.

-He said, "The year is 365 days." → He said that the year is 365 days.

-They say or said, "Water is boils at 100°." → They said water boils at 100°.

He said, "The week is seven days." → He said that the week is seven days.

**Note 6/** It is very important to mention "that" is used in indirect speech if the sentence is statement and it is not used in indirect speech if the sentence is question, command and prohibition.