

# Reported Speech

## Remember this:

Direct Speech	Reported Speech	today now	that day then
Simple present Simple past	Simple past Past perfect	today yesterday	that day the previous day
Present continuous Past continuous	Past continuous Past Perfect Continuous	tomorrow	the following day
Present perfect will can may must/have to	Past perfect would could might had to	next..... last..... .....ago	the following.... the previous.... .....before
	+ Verb	these here	that those there

1- Normal statements  
Tenses change.

2- Commands/advice  
to+verb/not to+verb

3- Questions wh-if  
Tenses change.

4- Gerund → V(base form) + ing

Tenses change:  
Simple present → Simple past  
Simple past → Past perfect

Reported speech is used to report what somebody else said before. The reporting verbs that we use most are *said, asked, told, suggested, warned, recommended, ordered, advised, explained, etc.* When we use reported speech, we either report **statements, questions, requests and commands or other types**, changing tenses, pronouns, and place and time expressions.

✔ **Statements:** "I broke my arm last week," Jeremy said.

✎ Jeremy said that he had broken his arm the previous week.

✔ **Request & commands:**

1. "Could you bring me some water?" she asked.

✎ She asked me to bring her some water.

2. "Don't eat in the classroom," the principal said.

✎ The principal told us not to eat in the classroom.

✔ **Questions:** "Did you go home yesterday?" he asked Tom.

✎ He asked Tom if he had gone home the previous day.

✔ **Other types:**

1. "Let's go to the movies?" Mr. Reed told his wife.

✎ Mr. Reed suggested going to the movies or Mr. Reed suggested that we should go to the movies.

2. "The robber was thin and tall," the witness said.

✎ The witness described the robber as thin and tall.

N.B. If the introductory verb is in simple present tense, (e.g, he says), we don't change the tense. For example, "I like English," Mary says. Mary says that she likes English.

Past continuous	7- "I was doing my homework," Mary said Mary said _____
↓	
Past perfect continuous	8- "We were cleaning the classroom," the students said. The students said that _____
↓	
Present perfect	9- I have repaired my car," Soufiane said. Soufiane said _____
↓	
Past Perfect	10- "Steve has sent a message," my mother said. My mother told me _____
↓	
will	11- "We will make more efforts to win the match," the players said. The players told the coach _____
↓	
would	12- "I will take you on a picnic next weekend," the father said to me. The father promised _____
↓	
can	13- "We can solve this equation without a calculator," the students said. The students told their teacher _____
↓	
could	14- "I can speak four foreign languages," Salma said. Salma said _____
↓	
may	15- "It may rain tonight," the weatherman said. The weatherman said that _____
↓	
might	16- "The president may visit this region," the spokesman said. The spokesman said _____
↓	
Must/ have to	17- "I have to go," Stephanie said. Stephanie said that _____
↓	
had to	18- "You must hand in the homework tomorrow," the teacher said. The teacher told his students that _____

### EXERCISE 2 Re-write these sentences as suggested.

Order/ advice..... (to+ V/ not to +V)

- "Shut up," the teacher to his students.  
The teacher ordered the students \_\_\_\_\_
- "Don't use the cell phone aboard the plane," she said.  
She reminded the passengers \_\_\_\_\_
- "You'd better drink more water," the doctor said.  
The doctor advised the patient \_\_\_\_\_

Wh- questions../ yes, no questions... (wh../if + tenses change)

- "Do you know his home address?" James asked.  
James asked Mary \_\_\_\_\_
- "Did your father buy a new car?" the neighbour asked.  
The neighbour asked me \_\_\_\_\_
- "Will the mayor visit our city?" the residents said.  
The residents wanted to know \_\_\_\_\_
- "Where can I find a bank?" a man asked.  
The man asked me \_\_\_\_\_
- "Why is the baby shouting? She asked her sister.  
She asked her sister \_\_\_\_\_

Gerund... (V+ing)

- "Let's go to the restaurant?" Jamal told his friend.  
Jamal suggested \_\_\_\_\_

### EXERCISE 1 Re-write these sentences as suggested.

Normal Statements (that +Tenses change)

Tenses	Sentences
Simple present	1. "I live in Marrakesh," Othmane said. Othmane said that _____
↓	
Simple past	2. "I am very happy to see Mr. Taylor," Jane said. Jane said _____
↓	
Simple past	3. "I called the secretary yesterday," Ahmed said. Ahmed said _____
↓	
Past Perfect	4. "I was not sick last week," he said. He said _____
↓	
Present continuous	5. "I am waiting for my brother," Susan said. Susan said _____
↓	
Past continuous	6. "We are planting olive trees," the farmers said. The farmers said _____

### EXERCISE 1 Re-write these sentences as suggested. (6Pts)

- "I will attend the training session next week," Nada said.  
Nada said \_\_\_\_\_
- "You played well in the match," the coach told the players.  
The coach told his players \_\_\_\_\_
- "Don't leave the door open at night," the mother reminded her daughter.  
The mother reminded her daughter \_\_\_\_\_
- "Will the boss come tomorrow?" Taha asked.  
Taha asked \_\_\_\_\_
- "Where can I find the dollar change?" the tourist asked.  
The tourist asked the receptionist \_\_\_\_\_
- "Why don't you go on a diet," Mrs. Brown told her neighbour.  
Mrs. Brown advised her neighbour \_\_\_\_\_

### EXERCISE 2 Choose the right answer. (6Pts)

- "The quiz will be difficult," the teacher said.  
The teacher said that the quiz \_\_\_\_\_ be difficult.
  - a- would
  - b- could
- "Let's go to the party?" he said.  
He suggested \_\_\_\_\_ to the party.
  - a- going
  - b- to go
- "Why don't you eat healthy food?" Maria said.  
Maria advised her sister \_\_\_\_\_ healthy food.
  - a- not to eat
  - b- to eat
- "You shouldn't smoke," Melissa said.  
Melisa advised her friend \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a- to not smoke
  - b- not to smoke
- "The show has attracted a lot of kids," the show producer said.  
The show producer said that \_\_\_\_\_ had attracted a lot of kids.
  - a- the show
  - b- he
- "Did you see the clown," the mother asked.  
The mother asked her son if he \_\_\_\_\_ the clown.
  - a- saw
  - b- had seen

### EXERCISE 3 Re-write these sentences as suggested. (8Pts)

- "The association has established some new rules," the president said.  
The president said \_\_\_\_\_
- "We have visited each other in Paris," Mary and Sandra said.  
Mary and Sandra said \_\_\_\_\_
- "Do your homework," the father told his daughter.  
The father reminded his daughter \_\_\_\_\_
- "Will the teachers come to the party?" Peter asked his friend.  
Peter wanted to know \_\_\_\_\_
- "Do you need some help?" a man asked an old lady.  
A man asked an old lady \_\_\_\_\_
- "When did you visit Istanbul?" the police asked a visitor.  
The police asked the visitor \_\_\_\_\_
- "I studied Biology last year in that College," Frank said.  
Frank told the dean \_\_\_\_\_
- "Let's go on a picnic to Ourika?" the students told their teacher.  
The students suggested \_\_\_\_\_

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**Ex. 1** 1...he lived in Marrakesh. 2...that she was very happy to see Mr. Taylor. 3. that he had called the secretary the previous day. 4. that she had not been sick the previous week. 5. that she was waiting for her brother. 6. that they were planting olive trees. 7. that she had been doing her homework. 8. they had been cleaning the classroom. 9. that he had repaired his car. 10. that Steve had sent a message. 11. that they would make more efforts to win the match. 12. that he would take me on a picnic the following weekend. 13. that they could solve that equation... 14. that she could speak .... 15. it might rain that night. 16. that the president might visit that region. 17. she had to go. 18. they had to hand in the homework the following day.

**Ex. 2** 1. to shut up. 2. not to use... 3. ...the patient to drink .... 1. if she knew his home address. 2. if my father had bought a new car. 3. the residents wanted to know if the mayor would visit their city 4. the man asked me where he could find a bank 5. she asked her sister why the baby was shouting 1. going to the restaurant/ Jamal suggested that they should go...

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**Ex. 1** 1. that she would attend the training session the following week. 2. that they had played well in the match. 3. not to leave ..... 4. if the boss would come the following day. 5.. where he could find the dollar change. 6. to go on a diet. **Ex. 2** 1.a 2.a 3.b 4.b 5.a 6.b **Ex. 3** 1. that the association had established some new rules. 2. that they had visited each other in Paris. 3. to do the homework. 4. if the teacher would come to the party. 5. if she needed some help. 6. when he had visited Istanbul. 7. that he had studied Biology the previous year in that college. 8. going/ that they should go on a picnic to Ourika.

