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Reported Speech

Remember this:



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.

EXERCISE 1 Re-write these sentences as suggested.

Normal Statements (that +Tenses change)

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

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

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

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

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

Gerund... (V+ing)

1. "Let's go to the restaurant?" Jamal told his friend.
Jamal suggested _____

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QUIZ 9

Quiz on Reported Speech

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

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

EXERCISE 2 Choose the right answer. (6Pts)

1. "The quiz will be difficult," the teacher said.
   The teacher said that the quiz _____ be difficult.
   a- would
   b- could
2. "Let's go to the party?" he said.
   He suggested _____ to the party.
   a- going
   b- to go
3. "Why don't you eat healthy food?" Maria said.
   Maria advised her sister _____ healthy food.
   a- not to eat
   b- to eat
4. "You shouldn't smoke," Melissa said.
   Melisa advised her friend _____ .
   a- to not smoke
   b- not to smoke
5. "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
6. "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)

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

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