

Reported Speech (2)

He said that...
He told me to...

- 1. SWBAT change the direct speech in present continuous tense to its indirect speech in past continuous tense.
- 2. SWBAT change the direct speech in present perfect to its indirect speech in past perfect tense.
- 3. SWBAT change the direct speech in modal verb to its indirect speech.

Definition

Reported speech, also known as indirect speech, is used to express what someone else has said **without** quoting them directly. Instead of repeating the exact words, we paraphrase and usually change the tense of the verbs, pronouns, and other words as necessary.

Change of Tense (Backshift)	
Direct	Indirect
Present Continuous Tense	Past Continuous Tense
Present Perfect Tense	Past Perfect Tense
may	might (for possibility), could (for permission)
can, will, shall	could, would, should
might, could, would, should, ought	might, could, would, should, ought

Examples

Present Continuous Tense -> Past Continuous Tense

Direct: “I am studying for my final exam tomorrow.”

Indirect: She said she was studying for her final exam the following day.

Present Perfect Tense -> Past Perfect Tense

Direct: “We have seen this movie.”

Indirect: They told me that they had seen that movie.

Modals

Direct: “Could you speak English?”

Indirect: He asked me if I could speak English.

Direct: “I will visit my parents next month”

Indirect: She said she will visit her parents the following month.