

## *In the Name of God*

### *Indirect Speech: A Shortcut*

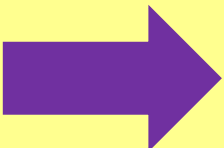
#### **Indirect speech in 5 steps:**

1. Define the **type of the sentence** (statement, question, command)
2. What **tense** is used in the **introductory sentence**?
3. Do you have to **change the person (pronoun)**?
4. Do you have to **change (backshift) the tenses**?
5. Do you have to **change expressions of time and place**?

Nima says, “I will sign up for a free online Engineering course on edX in summer”.

Sentence type: **Statement**

Introductory statement: **Tense: Simple present tense: No backshift**

Pronoun change: **I**  **He**

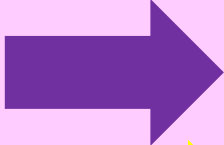
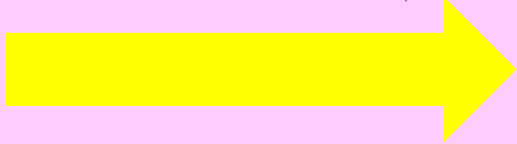
Time/place conversion: No time/place adverb

Nima **says that he will sign up** for a free online Engineering course on edX in summer.

Hanieh mentioned, “My friends are using Duolingo app to learn French”.

Sentence type: **Statement**

Introductory statement: **Tense: Simple past tense: Backshift**

**Present continuous**  **past continuous**  
**are using**  **were using**

Pronoun change: **My friends**  **her friends**



Time/place conversion: No time/place adverb

Hanieh **mentioned** that **her friends** **were using** Duolingo app to learn French.

Arshia stated, “We watch YouTube tutorials to learn the Java Programming Language.”

Sentence type: **Statement**

Introductory statement: **Tense: Simple past tense: Backshift**

<b>Simple present</b>		<b>Simple past</b>
<b>watch</b>		<b>watched</b>

Pronoun change: <b>we</b>		<b>they</b>
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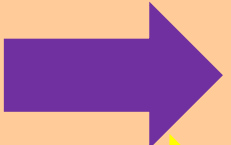

Time/place conversion: No time/place adverb

Arshia **stated** that **they watched** YouTube tutorials to learn the Java Programming Language.

Parsa said, “I have been going to the gym for the last two years.”

Sentence type: **Statement**

Introductory statement: **Tense: Simple past tense: Backshift**

<b>Present perfect continuous</b>		<b>Past perfect continuous</b>
<b>have been going</b>		<b>had been going</b>

Pronoun change: **I**  **he**

Time/place conversion: **last**  **previous**

Parsa **said** that **he** **had been going** to the gym for the **previous** two years.

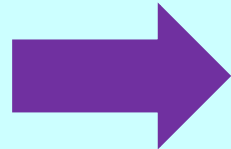
Mobina asked, “When did you leave the online class this morning?”

Sentence type: **Question**

Type of question: **Wh- question**

Introductory statement: **Tense: Simple past tense: Backshift**

**Simple past**



**Past perfect**

**When did you leave?**



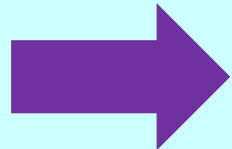
**had left**

Pronoun change: **You**



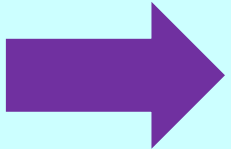
**I**

Time/place conversion: **This**



**That**

**Question**



**statement**

Mobina **asked** me **when I had left** the online class **that morning**.

**Wrong:** Mobina asked me ~~when had I left~~ the online class that morning?

**Wrong:** Mobina asked me ~~when did I leave~~ the online class that morning?

Amir Ali asked, “Do you watch movies?”


Sentence type: **Question**

Type of question: **Yes/No question**

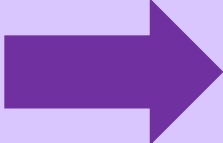
Introductory statement: **Tense: Simple past tense: Backshift**

**Simple present**  **Simple past**

**Do you watch?**  **watched**

Pronoun change: **You**  **I**

Time/place conversion: No time/place adverb

**Question**  **statement**

Amir Ali **asked** me if **I watched** movies.

**Wrong:** Amir Ali asked me ~~if did I watch~~ movies?

**Wrong:** Amir Ali asked me ~~if watched I~~ movies?

Ali Reza asked, “Create a study group on Discord.”

Sentence type: **positive command**

**Add “to”** before the main verb

Ali Reza asked **to create** a study group on Discord.

Mitra asked, “Don’t forget taking the next mini-test.”

Sentence type: **Negative command**

**Add “not to”** before the main verb

Mitra asked **not to forget** taking the next mini-test.