Direct and Indirect Speech

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Definition

Direct and Indirect speech is a reported speech which exercises two kinds of sentences: one is quoted another is unquoted.

Types of Sentences

- classified into fourThey are
- 1. Statements
- 2. Interrogative / Questions
- 3. Imperative
- 4. Exclamatory

Rules to be followed

Consider the changes that occur to certain words when reported.

- ☐ This that
- ☐ These those
- Here there
- □ Now then
- □ Today that day
- Tonight that night
- Tomorrow the next day / the following day
- ☐ Yesterday the previous day
- Last week the previous week
- Ago before / earlier
- Next week the following week

Rules to be followed

- □ I, we, you, my, your, his, her change according to the situation.
- Informed, replied, explained, answered, etc can be used as reporting verbs depending on the situation.

(Tense Changes)

- Present tense becomes past tense
- Past becomes past perfect

Statements

When a statement is reported, use the connecting word 'that' and reporting verb 'said or told'

Examples

Direct Speech

He said, "I am a business man"

Indirect (reported) Speech

He said that he was a business man.

Statements

- She told me, "I live in your city" (direcet)
- She told me that she lived in my city.(indirect)
- They informed me, "You will get a bike this year" (direct)
- They informed me that I would get a bike that year.(indirect)

Interrogative/ Questions

The reporting verb is 'asked / enquired'
Examples
Direct Speech
He asked me, "When will you join the course?"
Indirect Speech

He asked me when I would join the course.

Direct Speech

"Why did you enter my room in my absence?" he asked her.

Indirect Speech

He asked her why she had entered his room in his absence.

Interrogative/ Questions

- He asked me, "Is your brother working in some government department?" (Direct)
- He asked me whether my brother was working in some government department. (Indirect)
- "Have you finished all the work?" She asked him.(Direct)
- She asked him whether he had finished all his work.(Indirect)

Imperatives

- Includes order, request
- ☐ The reporting verbs are "requested, ordered, demanded, greeted, advised".
- The connecting word is "to and not to "

Examples

Direct Speech

He told me, "Please close the door".

Indirect Speech

He requested me to close the door.

Imperatives

- The house owner told the tenant, "Take all your belongs and clear the house". (Direct)
- The house owner ordered the tenant to take all his belongs and clear the room. (Indirect)
- "Please leave me alone", he said. (Direct)
- He requested me to leave him alone. (Indirect)
- □ "Have a nice time". The friends greeted him. (Direct)
- The friends greeted him to have a nice time.(Indirect)

Exclamatory

- Expression of sudden and deep feelings of in a high degree of surprise, pain, worry, adoration etc.
- ☐ The reporting verbs are "exclaimed sadly, cried out

Examples

Direct Speech

He Said, "God! I have lost the match"

Indirect Speech

He exclaimed sadly that he had lost the match.

Exclamatory

- Sheena said, "Alas! My grandfather is no more" (Direct)
- Sheena exclaimed that her grandfather was no more.(Indirect)
- Prabhu said, "ugh! My leg is hurt". (Direct)
- Prabhu cried out that her leg was hurt. (Indirect)

Exclamatory Sentences without Exclamatory word

- He said, "What a beautiful flower it is!" (Direct)
- He exclaimed that it was a very beautiful flower.(Indirect)
- ☐ She said, "What a fine morning!"
- She exclaimed that it was a very fine morning.

THANK YOU