

## UNIT-IV

### Article

Articles are the words 'a' or 'an' and 'the', which come before nouns. There are two articles – 'a' (or 'an') and 'the'.

A or *an* is known as the Indefinite Article, because it usually leaves indefinite the person or thing spoken of. Such as;

*A nurse* – which means any nurse.

The is known as the definite article, because it normally points out some particular person or thing. Such as;

He saw *the* nurse – which means some particular nurse.

The definite article *The* is used before singular countable nouns, plural countable nouns and uncountable nouns. For instance;

*The* book; or *the* books; or *the* milk.

The choice between 'a' and 'an' is determined by sound. Before a word beginning with a vowel sound 'an' is used. Such as;

*An* ass; *an* enemy ; *an* orange ; *an* hour ; *an* heir.

It should be noticed that the words hour, honest, heir, begin with a vowel sound, as the initial consonant 'h' is not pronounced.

Before a word beginning with a consonant sound 'a' is used. For instance;

*A* boy ; *A* union ; *A* horse ; *A* European ; *A* university ; *A* woman

In such words (university, union, etc.) the beginning is with a consonant sound, that of 'yu'. In similar way, we can say that;

*A* one-rupee note; Such *a* one ; *A* one-eyed woman.

**The rules for Article usage are summarized in the table below:**

a	an	the	no article
indefinite article with <b>consonants</b> (b,c,d,f,g, ...z)	indefinite article with <b>vowels</b> (a,e,i,o,u)	definite article regardless whether the noun starts with a consonant or a vowel	—
<u>not</u> specifically known to the person you are speaking with	<u>not</u> specifically known to the person you are speaking with	specific object that both the speaker and the listener know	general things
singular nouns	singular nouns	plural nouns	uncountable nouns
—	—	collection of states in a country (The United States of America, The UK, The Irish Republic)	countries, states, countless, provinces, lakes, mountains
—	—	Multiple areas: The Philippines, The Netherlands, the British Isles	others: sports, meals, places, transport, rivers, oceans, seas

—	—	Geographical points in the globe (the North Pole, the equator)	—
—	—	one and only particular thing (the sun, the moon, the wind, the Buckingham Palace)	—

### TENSES

Tenses denote the time of action. They show when the work is done. They are:

- (1) Present Tense
- (2) Past Tense
- (3) Future Tense

They are further divided into:

(1) **Simple Present**- It is used to denote scientific facts, universal truths and work done on daily basis.

**ASSERTIVE RULE --- sub + V1 + s/es + object**

**Example** - She writes a letter.

**NEGATIVE RULE --- sub + does not + V1 + s/es + object**

**Example** - She does not write a letter.

**INTERROGATIVE RULE --- Does + sub + V1 + s/es + object**

**Example** - Does she write a letter?

**INTERROGATIVE NEGATIVE ASSERTIVE --- Does + sub + not + V1 + s/es + object**

**Example** - Does she not write a letter?

(2) **Present Continuous**- It is used to express an action taking place at the time of speaking.

**ASSERTIVE RULE --- sub + is/am/are + V1 + ing + object**

**Example** - she is writing a letter.

**NEGATIVE RULE --- sub + is/am/are + not + V1 + ing + object**

**Example** - She is not writing a letter.

**INTERROGATIVE RULE --- is/am/are + sub + V1 + ing + object**

**Example** - Is she writing a letter?

**INTERROGATIVE NEGATIVE RULE --- is/am/are + sub + not + V1 + ing + object**

**Example** - Is she not writing a letter?

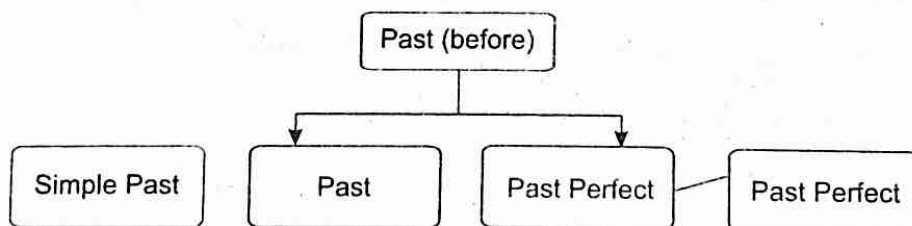
(3) **Present Perfect**- It is used to show an action that started in the past and has just finished.

**ASSERTIVE RULE --- sub + has/have + V3 + object****Example-** She has written a letter.**NEGATIVE RULE --- sub + has/have + not + V3 + object****Example** – She has not written a letter.**INTERROGATIVE RULE --- has/have + sub + V3 + object****Example-** Has she written a letter?**INTERROGATIVE NEGATIVE RULE ---has/have + sub + not + V3 + object****Example–** Has she not written a letter?

(4) **Present Perfect Continuous**– This tense shows the action which started in the past and is still continuing.

**ASSERTIVE RULE --- sub + has/have + been + V1 + ing + object****Example** – She has been writing a letter.**NEGATIVE RULE --- sub + has/have + not been + V1 + ing + object****Example–** She has not been writing a letter.**INTERROGATIVE RULE ---has/have + sub + been + V1 + ing + object****Example** – Has she been writing a letter?**INTERROGATIVE NEGATIVE RULE --- has/have + she + not + been + V1 + ing + object****Example** – Has she not been writing a letter?**Past Tense**

Tense symbolizes the ever moving, non-stop wheel of time which is forever busy gathering moments of future and throwing them into the dustbin of past

**Simple Past**

Used to indicate an action completed in the past. It often occurs with adverb of time. Sometimes it is used without an adverb of time.

Used for past habits.

Eg. I played football when I was a child. Rule: **Subject + V2**

Eg She wrote a letter

**1. Assertive Sentences**

–**Subject + V2 +**

**Object + (.)** She wrote a letter.

**2. Negative Sentences-****Subject + didn't + V1 + Object + (.)**

She didn't write a letter.

**3. Interrogative Sentences-****Did + Subject + V1 + Object + (?)**

Did she write a letter?

**4. Interrogative Negative Sentences-****Did + Subject + not + V1 + Object + (?)**

Did she not write a letter?

**Past Continuous Tense**

Used to denote an action going on at some time in the past.

e.g. I was driving a car.

Rule: was/were +ing

**1. Assertive Sentences -****Subject + was/were + V1 + ing + Object + (.)**

She was writing a letter.

**2. Negative Sentences-****Subject + was/were + not + ing + Object + (.)**

She was not writing a letter.

**3. Interrogative Sentences-****Was/were + Subject + ing + Object + (?)**

Was she writing a letter?

**4. Interrogative Negative Sentences-****Was/were + Subject + not + ing + Object + (?)**

Was she not writing a letter?

**Past Perfect Tense**

Used to describe an action completed before a certain moment in the past, usually along time ago. If two actions happened in the past, past perfect is used to show the action that took place earlier.

e.g. The patient had died before the doctor came.

**1. Assertive Sentences -****Subject + had + V3 + Object + (.)**

She had written a letter.

**2. Negative Sentences-****Subject + had + not + Object + (.)**

She had not written a letter.

**3. Interrogative Sentences-****Had + Subject + V3 + Object + (?)**

Had she written a letter?

**4. Interrogative Negative Sentences-****Had + Subject + not + V3 + Object + (?)**

Had she not written a letter?

**Past Perfect Continuous Tense**

Used to denote an action that began before a certain point in the past and continued up to some time in past.

e.g. I had been learning English in this school for 20 days.

**1. Assertive Sentences -**

**Subject + had been + V1 + ing + Object + (.)**

She had been writing a letter.

**2. Negative Sentences-**

**Subject + had + not been + V1 + ing + Object + (.)**

She had not been writing a letter.

**3. Interrogative Sentences-**

**Had + Subject + been + V1 + ing + Object + (?)**

Had she been writing a letter?

**4. Interrogative Negative Sentences-**

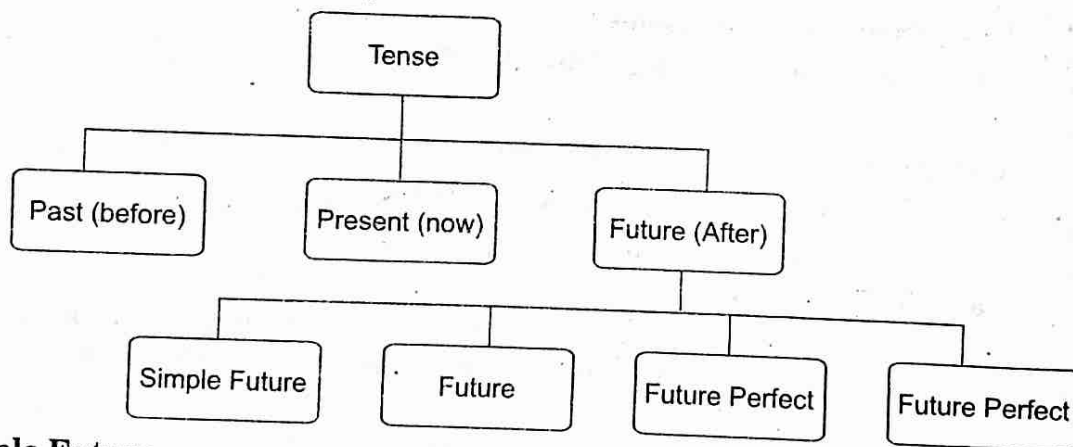
**Had + Subject + not + been + V1 + ing + Object + (?)**

Had she not been writing a letter?

**FUTURE TENSE**

Time and tide wait for no man. So, a period of time following the moment of speaking or writing is called as future tense.

For e.g- She will write a letter.

**Simple Future**

This tense tells us about an action which has not occurred yet and will occur after saying or in future

**Rule - Will/Shall + Verb (Ist form)**

In Future Tense helping verb 'Shall' is used with 'I' and 'We'. Helping verb 'Will' is used with all others. When you are to make a commitment or warn someone or emphasize something, use of 'will/shall' is reversed. 'Will' is used with 'I' & 'We' and 'shall' is used with others.

In general speaking there is hardly any difference between 'shall & will' and normally 'Will' is used with all.

Now, let us use this rule in various forms of sentences;

**1. Positive / Affirmative Sentences -**

**Subject + Will/Shall + Verb (Ist form) + Object + (.)**

She will write a letter.

## 2. Negative Sentences-

**Subject + Will/Shall + Not + Verb (Ist form) + Object + (.)**

She will not write a letter.

## 3. Interrogative Sentences-

**Will/Shall + Subject + Verb (Ist form) + Object + (?)**

Will she write a letter?

## 4. Interrogative Negative Sentences-

**Will/Shall + Subject + Not + Verb (Ist form) + Object + (?)**

Will she not write a letter?

## Future Continuous Tense

It is used to express an ongoing or continued action in future.

e.g. He will be distributing sweets in temple tomorrow at 12 o'clock.

In the example, the action will start in future (tomorrow) and action is thought to be continued till sometime in future.

We use the future continuous to talk about something that will be in progress at or around a time in the future.

**Rule: Will/Shall + Be + Verb (Ist form) + Ing**

Now, let us use this rule in various forms of sentences;

### 1. Positive / Affirmative Sentences -

**Subject + Will/Shall + Be + Verb (Ist form) + Ing + Object + (.)**

She will be writing a letter.

### 2. Negative Sentences-

**Subject + Will/Shall + Not + Be + Verb (Ist form) + Ing + Object + (.)**

She will not be writing a letter.

### 3. Interrogative Sentences-

**Will/Shall + Subject + Be + Verb (Ist form) + Ing + Object + (?)**

Will she be writing a letter?

### 4. Interrogative Negative Sentences-

**Will/Shall + Subject + Not + Be + Verb (Ist form) + Ing + Object + (?)**

Will she not be writing a letter?

## Future Perfect Tense

It is used to express an action which will happen/occur in future and will be completed by a certain time in future.

We use the future perfect to say that something will be finished by a particular time in the future.

e.g. They will have shifted the house by Sunday morning. **Rule: Will/Shall + Have + Verb (3rd form)**

Now, let us use this rule in various forms of sentences;

### 1. Positive / Affirmative Sentences -

**Subject + Will/Shall + Have + Verb (3rd form) + Object + (.)**

She will have written a letter.



**2. Negative Sentences-****Subject + Will/Shall + Not + Have + Verb (3rd form) + Object + (.)**

She will not have written a letter.

**3. Interrogative Sentences-****Will/Shall + Subject + Have + Verb (3rd form) + Object + (?)**

Will she have written a letter?

**4. Interrogative Negative Sentences-****Will/Shall + Subject + Not + Have + Verb (3rd form) + Object + (?)**

Will she not have written a letter?

**Future Perfect Continuous Tense**

It is used to talk about actions that will commence at a fix time in future and will continue for some time in future.

If there is no time reference, then it is not a Future perfect continuous tense. Without continued time reference, such sentences are Future Continuous Tense. Continued time reference only differentiates between Future Continuous Tense and Future Perfect Continuous Tense.

The future perfect progressive emphasize the duration of an activity that will begin progress before another time or event in the future.

e.g. This time tomorrow, I will be enjoying the cricket match in the stadium. It is also used to talk about planned actions or actions expected to happen.

e.g. They will be staying for a week's

The future perfect progressive emphasize the duration of an activity that will be in progress before another time or event in the future.

**Rule: Will/Shall + Have been + Verb (1st form) + Ing**

Now, let us use this rule in various forms of sentences;

**1. Positive / Affirmative Sentences -****Subject + Will/Shall + Have been + Verb (1st form) + Ing + Object + (.)**

She will have been writing a letter.

**2. Negative Sentences-****Subject + Will/Shall + Not + Have been + Verb (1st form) + Ing + Object + (.)**

She will not have been writing a letter.

**3. Interrogative Sentences-****Will/Shall + Subject + Have been + Verb (1st form) + Ing + Object + (?)**

Will she have been writing a letter?

**4. Interrogative Negative Sentences-****Will/Shall + Subject + Not + Have been + Verb (1st form) + Ing + Object + (?)**

Will she not have been writing a letter?

**CONDITIONAL SENTENCES**

In conditional sentences below words will definitely come.

1. If.....,

2. Provided

3. As soon as..... no sooner..... than

4. When.....

**5. Unless....., Until.....,****There are two parts of Conditional sentences**

1. If Clause
2. Main clause

**Mainly There are three types of conditional sentences**

- A. If clause in present tense
- B. If clause in past tense
- C. If clause in past tense
- D. Other types of conditional sentences

**A. IF CLAUSE IN PRESENT TENSE**

General formula-

If + Simple present, simple future

• In this type of sentences 'If Clause' is in **Simple Present** and 'Main clause' is in **Simple Future**.

If I will come to Delhi, I will meet you. **(Incorrect)**If I come to Delhi, I will meet you. **(Correct)**

If two works are in **future** back to back, and second work is depend on first work, then first work is in

**Simple Present Tense** and second work is in **Simple Future Tense**.**Some examples:-**1. She will come to meet you as soon as you will reach Delhi. **(Incorrect)**She will come to meet you as soon as you reach Delhi. **(Correct)**2. If the government will be become strict, corruption will surely finish. **(Incorrect)**If the government becomes strict, corruption will surely finish. **(Correct)**3. I will help him provided he will mend his ways. **(Incorrect)**I will help him **provided** he mends his ways. **(Correct)**4. Unless he will not take care of his health, he will not recover. **(Incorrect)****Unless** he takes care of his health, he will not recover. **(Correct)**5. There will be rush at the platform when the train will arrive. **(Incorrect)**There will be rush at the platform **when** the train arrives. **(Correct)**In above sentences of **If** don't use**will/shall/would****Note:-** In below sentences ,After sub+ will/shall

don't use

**If, as soon as, provided, before, after, until, unless, in case, when, lest.**1. With '**Unless or until**' don't use '**not**'.(See sentence 4)

2. In Conditional Sentences after when don't use will/ shall.(See sentence 5)

If the sentence is in **completely present form** then it can be in '**Main clause**' **simple present**. e.g.

1. If it rains, the schools remain closed.

If there is possibility in sentence then in place of will, '**may/might**' will be use.



1. If it rains, the students may not come for class.

2. If the fog doesn't clear, the plane may get late.

**If the sentence shows order then in place of 'will', 'May' will use. e.g.**

1. If you finish your work, you may go home.

**If any sentence shows Advise/ suggestion then in place of will, should/ must be use. e.g.**

1. If you want to remain healthy, you should exercise daily.

2. If you do not know him, you must not open the door.

**If any sentence shows etiquette/manner then could, may will definitely be use. e.g.**

1. If you meet him, **could** you tell him to call me up?

2. If you come to Delhi, **would** you come to meet me?

**In 'If clause' In place of simple present tense, present continuous tense can also be use. e.g.**

1. If you are waiting for the bus, you **should** better take a taxi.

2. If you are not reading the newspaper, you **should** let others read it.

**In 'If clause' present perfect tense can also be use.**

1. If you have finished the work, you **may** leave.

2. If they have bought tickets, they **will** surely go to see the movie.

### **B. IF CLAUSE IN PAST TENSE**

General formula-

If + Simple Past, Subject + would + V1

e.g. If I had money, I would lend it to you.

This type of sentence shows 'improbability'.

In above sentence '**If I had money**' clearly shows that '**there is no money**'.

### **C. 'IF' CLAUSE IN PAST PERFECT TENSE**

General formula-

If + Past Perfect, Sub + would + have + V3

Example:-

If I had seen you, I would have stopped my car.

• In this type of sentence. The work has shown in 'If clause' sentence, that work has shown not done.

Means '**If I had seen you**' shows that '**I had not seen you**'.

• In this type of sentence '**If**' can be replace by '**had**'. Then the formula

Had + Subject + V3 + obj, subject + would + have + V3

Example:-

Had I seen you, I would have stopped my car.

### **THREE IMPORTANT FORMULAE**

If + Present Indefinite, Simple Future

If + S + had + V3, S + would + have + V3

If + S + V2, S + would + V1

### **OTHER TYPES OF CONDITIONAL SENTENCES**

**(i) Imaginative sentences****General Formula-**

If + subject + were, subject + would + V1

e.g. If I were a bird, I would fly in the sky.

• For imaginative sentences with all subjects '**were**' will be use. For below sentences was will not use.

If, as though, in case, as if, would that and I wish.

e.g. He scolded me as if he was my father. **(Incorrect)**

He scolded me as if he were my father. **(Correct)**

(ii) In '**If clause**' sentences '**Unless**' so long, as soon as, when, provided, suppose, in case, but, for can also be use.

e.g. (1) **Unless** you work hard, you will not pass.

Note:- with **Unless**, '**not**' will not use. **Unless you work hard** we mean '**If you do not work hard.**' Means Unless + affirmative = If + negative.

1. I shall support him **so long as** I am alive.

2. **As soon as** the train comes, there will be rush for seats.

3. **When** he comes to Delhi, I will go to meet him.

**ACTIVE vs. PASSIVE VOICE****Problem**

Beginning or inattentive writers tend to overuse passive voice, which can weaken their prose, lead to the omission of important information, and make them appear unsure of their ideas.

When instructors draw attention to the problem, some students overcompensate, eliminating all passive voice from their writing.

Although many academic writers often favor active voice because it is direct and concise, both voices are useful and necessary. That is why the grammar check on word processing programs highlights all passive constructions—it gives writers a chance to consider whether each choice is appropriate according to the purpose of the sentence.

**Solutions****UNDERSTAND HOW BOTH ACTIVE AND PASSIVE SENTENCES ARE STRUCTURED.**

• **Active Voice:** The subject of the sentence is the one doing the action.

The researchers **compared** the behavior of two groups of children. The clerk **was helping** the customer.

Students **need** good study skills to succeed in college. You **should tell** him.

• **Passive Voice:** The subject of the sentence is now being acted upon. The actor moves to the end of the sentence with by or drops off altogether if it is unimportant or unknown. The verb must include a form of be, followed by a past participle (normally an -ed ending).

The behavior of two groups of children **was compared** (by the researchers). The customer **was being helped** (by the clerk).

Good study skills **are needed** to succeed in college. He **should be told**.

- Only verbs that are followed by an object can be used in the passive. It is not possible to use verbs such as *come*, *exist*, *happen*, *seem*, and *sleep* (intransitive verbs) in the passive.

Incorrect: Something was happened.

Correct: Something happened.

### **KNOW WHEN ACTIVE VOICE IS APPROPRIATE OR PREFERRED.**

- To focus readers' attention on the actor, not what is being acted upon.

Active: Captain Ahab pursues the whale relentlessly.

Passive: The whale is pursued relentlessly. (Or, The whale is pursued relentlessly by Captain Ahab.)

In the above example, the active voice would be preferred if the writer wanted to focus readers' attention on Captain Ahab. The passive voice would be preferred if the writer wanted to focus readers' attention on the whale, or on the fact that it is pursued relentlessly.

- When it is important that readers know exactly who did (or said) what to whom.

Active: When U.S. troops invaded Iraq, they inadvertently killed many civilians.

Passive: When Iraq was invaded, many civilians were killed inadvertently.

In the above example, the active voice would be appropriate if the writer wanted to name or emphasize the actors (U.S. troops), not only their actions. The passive voice would be appropriate if the writer did not think it was important for readers to know who did the actions in the sentence.

### **KNOW WHEN PASSIVE VOICE IS APPROPRIATE OR PREFERRED. All of the examples below are choices based on style and rhetorical context, not strict grammar rules.**

- To focus attention on the process or materials, rather than on the actor, as in scientific or technical writing.

Next, salicylic acid was added to the test tube.

- To focus attention on the object, rather than the actor.

Paper, the main writing material today, was invented by the Chinese.

This is appropriate when the focus is on the history of paper, not on Chinese innovations. Choosing passive voice allows the writer to use "paper" as the subject of the sentence.

The new highway will be completed sometime next month.

This is appropriate when the focus is on the highway project, not on the workers completing it.

- To connect ideas in different clauses or sentences more clearly.

When interviewing for a job, avoid making grammatical errors. They are often used by employers to weed out job applicants.

In the beginning of the second sentence, using passive voice ("used by employers") allows the writer to refer to grammatical errors ("They") right away in order to clearly connect to the end of the previous sentence.

## NARRATIONS

### Direct Speech

When we want to describe what someone said, one option is to use direct speech. We use direct speech when we simply repeat what someone says, putting the phrase between speech marks:

- Paul came in and said, "I'm really hungry."

It is very common to see direct speech used in books or in a newspaper article. For example:

- The local MP said, "We plan to make this city a safer place for everyone."

As you can see, with direct speech it is common to use the verb 'to say' ('said' in the past). But you can also find other verbs used to indicate direct speech such as 'ask', 'reply', and 'shout'. For example:

- When Mrs Diaz opened the door, I asked, "Have you seen Lee?"
- She replied, "No, I haven't seen him since lunchtime."
- The boss was angry and shouted, "Why isn't he here? He hasn't finished that report yet!"

### Indirect Speech

When we want to report what someone said without speech marks and without necessarily using exactly the same words, we can use indirect speech (also called reported speech). For example:

- Direct speech: "We're quite cold in here."
- Indirect speech: They say (that) they're cold.

When we report what someone says in the present simple, as in the above sentence, we normally don't change the tense, we simply change the subject. However, when we report things in the past, we usually change the tense by moving it one step back. For example, in the following sentence the present simple becomes the past simple in indirect speech:

- Direct speech: "I have a new car."
- Indirect speech: He said he had a new car.

All the other tenses follow a similar change in indirect speech.

Direct Speech	Indirect Speech
He said, "I live in the city center." (present simple)	He said he lived in the city center.
He said, "I'm going out."	He said he was going out.
He said, "I've finished." (present perfect)	He said he had finished.
He said, "I've been studying a lot." (present perfect continuous)	He said he had been studying a lot.
He said, "I arrived before you." (past simple)	He said he had arrived before you.
He said, "I had already left."	He said he had already left. (remains the same)

He said, "I'll be there at 2 pm." (future simple)	He said he would be there at 2 pm.
He said, "I'm going to call Alan." (be going to)	He said he was going to call Alan.

The same rule of moving the tenses one step back also applies to modal verbs. For example:

Direct Speech	Indirect Speech
She said, "I can swim."	She said she could swim.
She said, "I must go."	She said she had to go.
She said, "I may drive there."	She said she might drive there.
She said, "Shall we start?"	She asked if we should start.
She said, "I'll call you."	She said she would call me.

### Using 'say' or 'tell'

As an alternative to using 'say' we can also use 'tell' ('told' in the past) in reported speech, but in this case you need to add the object pronoun. For example:

- He **told me** he was going to call Alan.
- They told her they would arrive a little late.
- You told us you'd already finished the order.

### Changing Time Expressions

Sometimes it's necessary to change the time expressions when you report speech, especially when you are speaking about the past and the time reference no longer applies. For example:

- Direct speech: "I'm seeing my brother **tomorrow**."
- Indirect speech: She said she was seeing her brother **the following day**.

Here are some other examples:

- Direct speech: "I had a headache **yesterday**."
- Indirect speech: You said you'd had a headache **the day before yesterday**.
- Direct speech: "It's been raining since **this afternoon**."
- Indirect speech: He said it'd been raining since **that afternoon**.
- Direct speech: "I haven't seen them since **last week**."
- Indirect speech: She said she hadn't seen them since **the previous week**.

### Reporting Questions

When you report a question you need to change the interrogative form into an affirmative sentence, putting the verb tense one step back, as with normal reported speech.

There are two types of questions that we can report – questions that have a yes/no response, and questions that begin with a question word like 'what', 'where', 'who' etc. When we report a yes/no question, we use 'if'. For example:

- Direct speech: "Do they live here?"
- Indirect speech: You asked me **if they lived** here.

As you can see, in the reported version of the question, 'do' is eliminated because it is no longer a question, and the verb 'live' becomes 'lived'.



For questions starting with question words like 'what', 'where', 'when', 'who', etc., we report the question using the question word but change the interrogative form to the affirmative form. For example:

- Direct speech: "Where do they live?"
- Indirect speech: You asked me **where they lived**.
- Direct speech: "When are you leaving?"
- Indirect speech: He asked us **when we were leaving**.
- Direct speech: "How will they get here?"
- Indirect speech: She asked me **how they would get here**.

When we report a question we normally use the verb 'ask'. As with the verb 'to tell', the verb 'to ask' is normally followed by an object pronoun, though it is possible to omit it.

### **Reporting Orders and Requests**

When you give someone an order, you use the imperative form, which means using just the verb without a subject. For example:

- "Call me back later."
- "Have a seat."
- "Don't do that!"

To report an order we use 'tell' and the infinitive of the verb. For example:

- You told me **to call** you back later.
- He told me **to have** a seat.
- She told us **not to do** that.

When you make a request, you normally use words like 'can', 'could', or 'will'. For example:

- "Could you call me back later?"
- "Will you have a seat?"
- "Can you not do that please?"

To report a request, we use the verb 'to ask' and the infinitive form of the verb. For example:

- You asked me **to call** you back later.
- He asked me **to have** a seat.
- She asked us **not to do** that.

### **Degree of comparison**

The **degree of comparison** of an adjective describes the relational value of one thing with something in another clause of a sentence. The **comparative degree** of an adjective is used to compare the quality with that of another of its kind; and the **superlative degree** is used to compare the quality with many or all others.

1. Tim runs fast.
2. Tim runs faster than Jack.
3. Peter runs fastest among his friends.

### **Forming the Comparative and Superlative Degrees**



Here are the rules for forming the comparative and superlative degrees of adjectives:

Type of Adjective	Example in the Positive Degree	How to Form the Comparative Degree	How to Form the Superlative Degree
one syllable	· strong	<b>add <i>er</i></b> · stronger	<b>add <i>est</i></b> · strongest
one syllable ending vowel consonant	· thin	<b>double consonant and add <i>er</i></b> · thinner	<b>double consonant and add <i>est</i></b> · thinnest
more than one syllable	· famous	<b>add <i>less or more</i></b> · more famous	<b>add <i>most or least</i></b> · least famous
more than one syllable ending y	· silly	<b>remove y add <i>ier</i></b> · sillier <b>for less</b> · less silly	<b>remove y add <i>iest</i></b> · silliest <b>for least</b> least silly
irregular	· bad · good · many	<b>no rules</b> · worse · better · more	<b>no rules</b> · worst · best · most

Here are the rules for forming the comparative and superlative degrees of adverbs:

Type of Adjective	Example in the Positive Degree	How to Form the Comparative	How to Form the Superlative
one syllable	· fast	<b>add <i>er</i></b> · faster	<b>add <i>est</i></b> · fastest
more than one syllable	· carefully	<b>add <i>less or more</i></b> · more carefully	<b>add <i>most or least</i></b> · most carefully
irregular	· badly · well	<b>no rules</b> · worse · better	<b>no rules</b> · worst · best