

# Direct and Reported Speech

## Lesson

### I

This lesson describes the importance and differences between direct and reported speech. This also explains different ways and processes to be considered in converting direct speech to reported speech and vice versa. You are expected to identify the difference between direct and reported speech; use direct and reported speech appropriately; and understand and follow the rules

**Learning Task 1:** Analyze the group of statements below. Write down your observations in your notebook.

Direct Speech	Reported Speech
Joan said, "I will finish my assignments."	Joan said that she would finish her assignments.
He said to me, "What are you cooking?"	He asked me what I was cooking.
She said, "My friend visited yesterday."	She said that her friend had visited the day before.
Kenneth said to Lisa, "Close the door."	Kenneth ordered Lisa to close the door.
Dianne said, "Will I pass the test?"	Dianne asked whether she would pass the test.

### D

**Learning Task 2:** Tell whether each of the following statements is a direct or reported speech. Write your answers in your notebook.

1. Rey writes, "To see is to believe."
2. Bonnie said, "I am one in a million."
3. Jonathan said that he joined the *Tiktok* Dance Challenge.
4. He announced that he would marry next month.
5. They wrote that they found a new treasure.
6. Carla says, "I am a woman."
7. Trisha said to me, "Did you get home safely?"
8. David said that he is going to Cavite today.
9. James said, "I bought my own car."
10. Trisha asked me if I had gotten home safely.

## DIRECT AND REPORTED SPEECH

In **direct speech**, the message of the speaker is conveyed or reported in his own actual words without any change. It is also known as quoted speech. The exact message of the speaker is enclosed by quotation marks "..."

Examples: The boy said, "I ate pancakes."

The mother ordered, "Clean the house."

"Is everything clear?" asked John.

A direct speech commonly has a reporting clause, reporting verb, reported clause and reported verb.

Examples: **Reporting clause** - The boy said, "I ate pancakes."  
**Reporting verb** - The boy **said**, "I ate pancakes."  
**Reported clause** - The boy said, "**I ate pancakes.**"  
**Reported verb** - The boy said, "I **ate** pancakes."

**Reported speech** is also known as indirect speech. It is a report on what someone else said or wrote without using that person's exact words. Unlike direct speech, it doesn't have quotation marks.

Examples: The boy said that he had eaten pancakes.  
The mother ordered to clean the house.  
John asked if everything was clear.

## Basic Rules in Changing Direct Speech (DS) to Reported Speech (RS)

### 1. Changes in Person of Pronouns

- 1<sup>st</sup> person pronouns in reported clause are always changed according to the subject of the reporting clause.

Examples: DS: Anna said, "I am happy."

RS: Anna said that *she* was happy.

- 2<sup>nd</sup> person pronouns in reported clause are always changed according to the object of the reporting clause.

Examples: DS: Joy said to Paul, "You passed the exam."

RS: Joy told Paul that *he* had passed the exam.

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Person pronouns in reported clause are not changed.

Examples: DS: Joana said, "*She* looks sad."

RS: Joana said *she* looked sad.

### 2. Changes in Verbs

- If the reporting clause is in **present tense** or **future tense**, then **no change is required** to be made in the verb of reported clause. This verb could be in any tense.

Example: DS: He *says*, "I *am going* to the library."

RS: He *says* that he *is going* to the library.

- If the reporting verb is in past tense, then the reported verb will be changed depending on its tense.

Changes in Tense of the Verb	
Direct Speech	Reported/Indirect Speech
<b>Present Simple</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The man said, "I <i>join</i> the club."</li> </ul>	<b>Past Simple</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The man said that he <i>joined</i> the club.</li> </ul>
<b>Present Progressive</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>She said, "The cat <i>is sleeping</i>."</li> </ul>	<b>Past Progressive</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>She said that the cat <i>was sleeping</i>."</li> </ul>

Direct Speech	Reported Speech
<b>Present Perfect</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>They said, "We <i>have prepared</i> snacks."</li> </ul>	<b>Past Perfect</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>They said that they <i>had prepared</i> snacks.</li> </ul>
<b>Past Simple</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>My friend announced, "The meeting <i>started</i>."</li> </ul>	<b>Past Perfect</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>My friend announced that the meeting <i>had started</i>.</li> </ul>
<b>Past Progressive</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shane said, "The children <i>were laughing</i> at my cleverness."</li> </ul>	<b>Past Perfect Progressive</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shane said that the children <i>had been laughing</i> at her cleverness.</li> </ul>
<b>Past Perfect</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The boy said, "I <i>had studied</i> abroad."</li> </ul>	<b>Past Perfect</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The boy said that he <i>had studied</i> abroad.</li> </ul>

Change in Modal Verbs	
<b>will/shall</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bryan said, "I <i>will</i> try to finish my report."</li> </ul>	<b>would/should</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bryan said that he <i>would</i> try to finish his report.</li> </ul>
<b>can</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>My father said to me, "I <i>can</i> pick you up."</li> </ul>	<b>could</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>My father told me he <i>could</i> pick me up.</li> </ul>
<b>may</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Troy said, "I <i>may</i> invite them to the party."</li> </ul>	<b>might</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Troy said that he <i>might</i> invite them to the party.</li> </ul>
<b>must</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jane said, "I <i>must</i> stop smoking."</li> </ul>	<b>must/had to</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jane said that she <i>must/had to</i> stop smoking.</li> </ul>

### 3. Other significant word changes

Direct		Reported	
now	yesterday	then	the day before
here	tonight	there	that night
today	this	that day	that
tomorrow	these	the next day	those

### 4. Conversion of Interrogative and Imperative Direct Speech

- The reporting verb *said* or *said to* is changed to *asked*, *demanded* or *inquired*.
- For yes/no questions, *if* or *whether* is used in place of *that*.  
 DS: Joseph *said to* Jana, "Will you attend the flag ceremony?"  
 RS: Joseph *asked* Jana *if she would* attend the flag ceremony.
- For WH questions, neither *if* is used nor any other word is added.  
 DS: My little brother *said to* the waitress, "What *are you* doing?"  
 RS: My little brother *asked* the waitress what *she was* doing.
- For imperative (command), the reporting verb *said* or *said to* is changed to *ordered* or *commanded*.

DS: The librarian *said to* me, “Keep quiet.”  
 RS: The librarian *ordered* me *to* keep quiet.

- For imperative (request), the reporting verb *said or said to* is changed to *requested*.

DS: He *told* me, “Please call me.”  
 RS: He *requested* me *to* call him.

\* Note: The use of the word “that” is optional in reported speech. Both of the following sentences are correct:

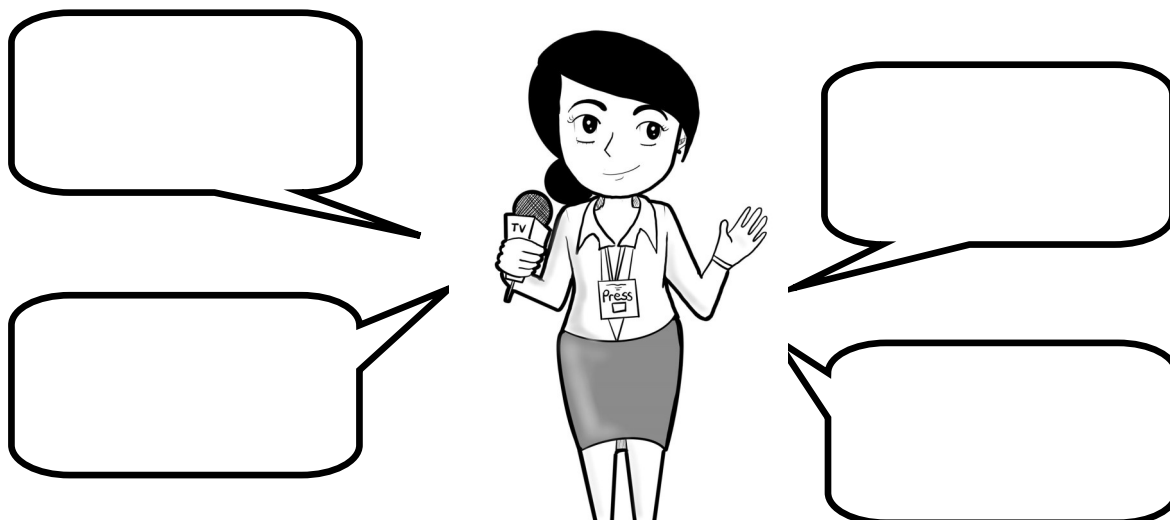
The student said that he had gained weight.

## E

**Learning Task 3:** Study the images believe. Fill the speech bubbles with what you think he/she could be saying. Write your answers in your notebook.



**Learning Task 4:** Imaging yourself as a news reporter. Convert the messages of the people from Learning Task 1 into a news report. Write your answers in your notebook.





**Learning Task 5:** Change direct speech to reported speech. The first number is done for you. Write down your observations in your notebook.

Direct Speech	Indirect Speech
1. Nicole said, "Tell me the truth."	Nicole demanded to tell her the truth.
2. My brother said, "I love to sing."	
3. The teacher said to her, "Will you join the contest?"	
4. They said, "We are veterans."	
5. Sheila said, "They came here yesterday."	
6. She said to me, "Are you sure?"	
7. The doctor said to her, "You are not sick."	
8. The guard said to me, "Wear your uniform."	
9. Pedro said to me, "I saw your puppy outside."	
10. The little boy said, "I will be a police-man."	