Indirect speech (Reported speech):

Similar to passive voice, it is used to ‘repeat’ speech, or quote from another person.

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| --- | --- |
| Direct speech tense | Indirect speech tense |
| Simple present  Jane: This question **needs** an amendment | Simple past  Jane told me the question **needed** an amendment |
| Present continuous  Jane: I am **clarifying** some terms in the question | Past continuous  Jane told me she **was clarifying** some terms in the question. |
| Present perfect  Jane: I **have checked** the exam paper. | Past perfect  Jane stated that she **had checked** the exam paper. |
| Simple past Jimmy: I **went** to the supermarket yesterday | Past perfect  Jimmy said he **had gone** to the supermarket on the previous day. |
| will | Would |
| Can | Could |
| Must | Had to |
| May | Might |

Convert the following sentences from active speech to indirect speech.

1. President: I will deport all immigrants by 2025

The president said he would deport all immigrants by 2025.

1. Mother: We have run out of food in our house.

Mum said we had run out of food in our house.

1. Father: We can buy some more food on Saturday

My dad said we could buy some more food on Saturday.

1. Johnny: I am studying tonight.

Johnny said he was studying that night.

1. Science teacher: Mixing bleach and ammonia cleaners produces toxic gases.

The science teacher said mixing bleach and ammonia produced toxic gases.

1. Larry: I joined the rowing team!

Larry said he had joined the rowing team.

1. Mother: You must score well in the exam or else I may take away your phone.

My mother said I had to score well in the exam or else she might take away my phone.

1. Government: We are repaving the road outside your house.

The government said they were repaving the road outside my house.

Modal verbs for ability - can, could.

Whether you can do something

e.g. I can use a computer.

e.g. I can go to university

Modal verbs for possibility - may, could, can, might.

Things that have a chance of occurring

e.g. I can win a prize // I might a win a prize

Modal verbs for impossibility – Cannot, can’t

E.g. I cannot win a prize.

Modal verbs for obligation - should, must, have to, cannot

Tasks which should be done.

E.g. I should complete my homework vs I must complete my homework.

Have to is mostly the same as ‘must’

E.g. He has to save money to buy a car.

Modal verbs for necessity - need, must

Tasks which are essential

e.g. We must send him to hospital within half an hour, or else he will die.

e.g. We need to drink 2L of water per day for a healthy lifestyle.

You will lose money when you gamble your money at the casino(賭場). Ca-seen-no

I can come to your home tonight and fix your television.

He is playing every day, he has a high possibility to fail the upcoming exam.

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