



# Reported Speech 3

Grammar > Advanced 7



# Exercise 1 – Learning

## Question

To report a yes-no question, use **'if'**:

Lisa asked, "**Can I** borrow your book?" → Lisa asked **if she could** borrow your book.

To report an open-ended question, reverse **the subject** and **verb** in the question:

Lisa asked, "Where **are you**?" → Lisa asked where **you were**.

Don't use **'do'** or **'did'**:

Lisa asked, "What **do you think**?" → Lisa asked what **you thought**.

## Imperative

To indirectly report a **command/request/advice/instruction**, change **the verb** into **the to-infinitive form**.

Mom says, "**Go** do your homework!" → Mom says **to go** do your homework.



## Time and Place References

When we use **past tense reporting verbs** (said/told/asked/advised/etc...), we change **the terms used for times**:

She told, "Come **today**" → She told me to come **that day**.

The doctor said, "Come back **tomorrow**" → He said to come **the next day**.

John asked, "Did you see the doctor **yesterday**?" → He asked if I had seen the doctor **the day before**.

Lisa said, "I'm moving **next** week." → Lisa said that she was moving **the following** week.

Megan asked, "Did you hurt yourself **last** month?" → Megan asked if I had hurt myself **the previous** month.



Peter said, "I'm seeing the doctor **this** Tuesday." → Peter said that he was seeing the doctor **that** Tuesday.

David said, "The last time I saw the doctor was a year **ago**." → David said that the last time he saw the doctor was a year **before**.

We change **the terms for place and direction** as well:

Julie told me, "**Come here**." → Julie told me to **go there**.

Joe said, "**This/That** room is yours." → Joe said that **the** room was mine.

**Tip:** We don't '**say**' a question; we '**ask**' a question.



## Exercise 2 – Rephrasing

*Rephrase the following Direct Speech sentences into Reported Speech sentences.*

**Example:** He asked the waiter, "When did you start working here?" → He asked when the waiter had started working there.

### Content:

1. The police officer asked me, "Where are you going?"
2. Megan asked her nephew, "What movie do you like?"
3. My mother told me, "Go to bed!"
4. The teacher told the students, "Don't cheat!"
5. I asked my neighbor, "Can I borrow your car next week?"
6. The general said to his men, "Come here!"
7. Lisa told Julie, "Don't talk to me until next month!"
8. My boss told me, "Finish this report by tomorrow!"



## Exercise 3 – Sentence Construction

*Use what you learned in class to create sentences with your tutor.*

**Example:** "I am going to Japan next year." → I said that I am going to Japan next year.

### Content:

1. "I have a new job."
2. "I was sick last week."
3. "I will work for a German company next month."
4. "I don't listen to rock music."
5. "I work on the weekends."
6. "I will graduate from university soon."