

Reported speech

Units 47–48, 50

25 Complete the sentences using reported speech.

1  Can I speak to Paul, please?  
I'll try again later.

 YOU Paul has gone out. I don't know when he'll be back. Do you want to leave a message?

A woman phoned at lunchtime yesterday and asked if she could speak to Paul. I told her that Paul had gone out and asked if she wanted to leave a message. I asked her to try again later, but she said she would later. But she never did.

2  We have no record of a reservation in your name.  
We're sorry, but the hotel is full.

 Do you have any rooms free anyway?

I went to London recently, but my visit didn't begin well. I had reserved a hotel room, but when I got to the hotel they told me there was no record of a reservation in my name. When I asked if they had any rooms free anyway, they said no, the hotel was full, but they offered to find me another hotel. There was nothing I could do. I just had to look for somewhere else to stay.

3  Why are you visiting the country?  
How long do you intend to stay?  
Where will you be staying during your visit?

 We're on holiday.

After getting off the plane, we had to queue for an hour to get through immigration. Finally it was our turn. The immigration official asked us why we were visiting the country and how long we intended to stay, and we told him we were on holiday and where we would be staying. Then he wanted to know how long we intended to stay and where we would be staying. He seemed satisfied with our answers, checked our passports and wished us a pleasant stay.

4  I'll phone you from the airport when I arrive.

 SUE Don't come to the airport. I'll take the bus.

A: What time is Sue arriving this afternoon?  
B: About three. She said she would phone me from the airport when she arrived.  
A: Aren't you going to meet her?  
B: No, she said she would take the bus and not come to the airport. She said she would take the bus.