

Reported speech: time and place changes

- With reported speech, we also usually have to change words and phrases connected to time and place. These changes include:

Direct speech	Reported speech	Example
here	there	'I usually shop here ,' said Tim. ➔ Tim said he usually shopped there .
now / at the moment	then / at that moment	'I'm shopping at the moment ,' said Tim. ➔ Tim said he was shopping then / at that moment .
tomorrow	the next/following day	'I'm going shopping tomorrow ,' said Tim. ➔ Tim said he was going shopping the next/following day .
tonight	that night	'I'm going shopping tonight ,' said Tim. ➔ Tim said he was going shopping that night .
next week/month/year	the following week/month/year	'I'm going shopping next week ,' said Tim. ➔ Tim said he was going shopping the following week .
yesterday	the day before / the previous day	'I went shopping yesterday ,' said Tim. ➔ Tim said he'd been shopping the day before / the previous day .
last week/month/year	the week/month/year before / the previous week/month/year	'I went shopping last week ,' said Tim. ➔ Tim said he'd been shopping the week before / the previous week .
ago	before / previously	'I went shopping two days ago ,' said Tim. ➔ Tim said he'd been shopping two days before / previously .

Watch out!

- We do not need to make any changes to time words/phrases when the information is still true at the moment of speaking/writing.
✓ 'I'm going shopping **tomorrow**,' said Tim to Ben. ➔ Ben immediately called Lizzie and said, 'Tim said he's going shopping **tomorrow**.'

Reported questions

- We use reported questions when we want to say what someone else asked.
eg Tim asked Tom if he wanted to go shopping with him.
- We use the same rules regarding tense, pronoun and time and place word/phrase changes with reported questions as we do with reported speech.

Direct speech	Reported speech	Example
have, do, be or modal (ie yes/no questions)	use if or whether	' Can you get me an ice cream, Tom?' asked Tim. ➔ Tim asked Tom if / whether he could get him an ice cream.
what, who, which, when, where, why and how	what, who, which, when, where, why and how	' Why did you buy these shoes?' asked Tim. ➔ Tim asked me why I had bought those shoes.

Watch out!

- In direct questions we use the question form and question marks (Can you ...?).
In reported questions we don't use the question form or question marks (asked if he could ...).

Reporting verbs

- Different reporting verbs take different grammatical patterns. Some verbs can take more than one pattern.
✓ **deny** (verb + noun) Katie **denied the accusation**.
✓ **deny** (verb + that clause) Katie **denied (that)** she was a shoplifter.
✓ **deny** (verb + -ing) Katie **denied stealing** the chocolate biscuits.
See page 197 for a full list of verbs and patterns.