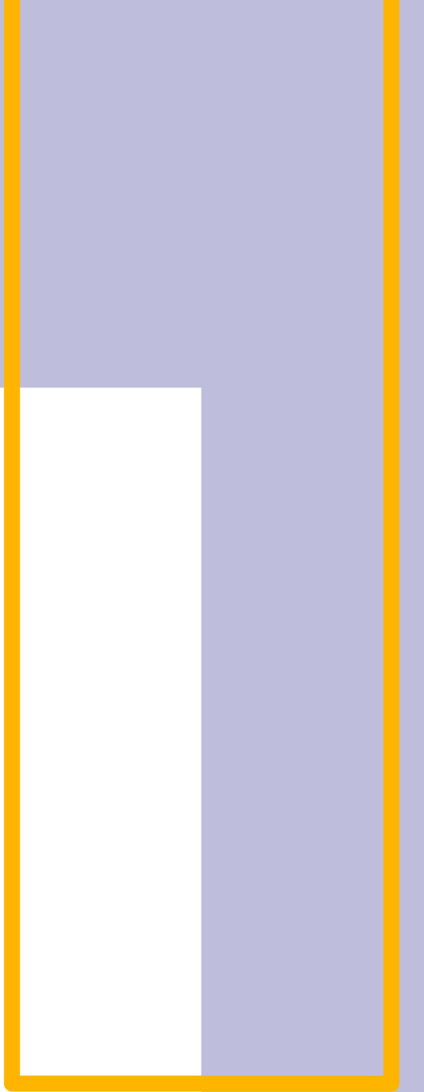


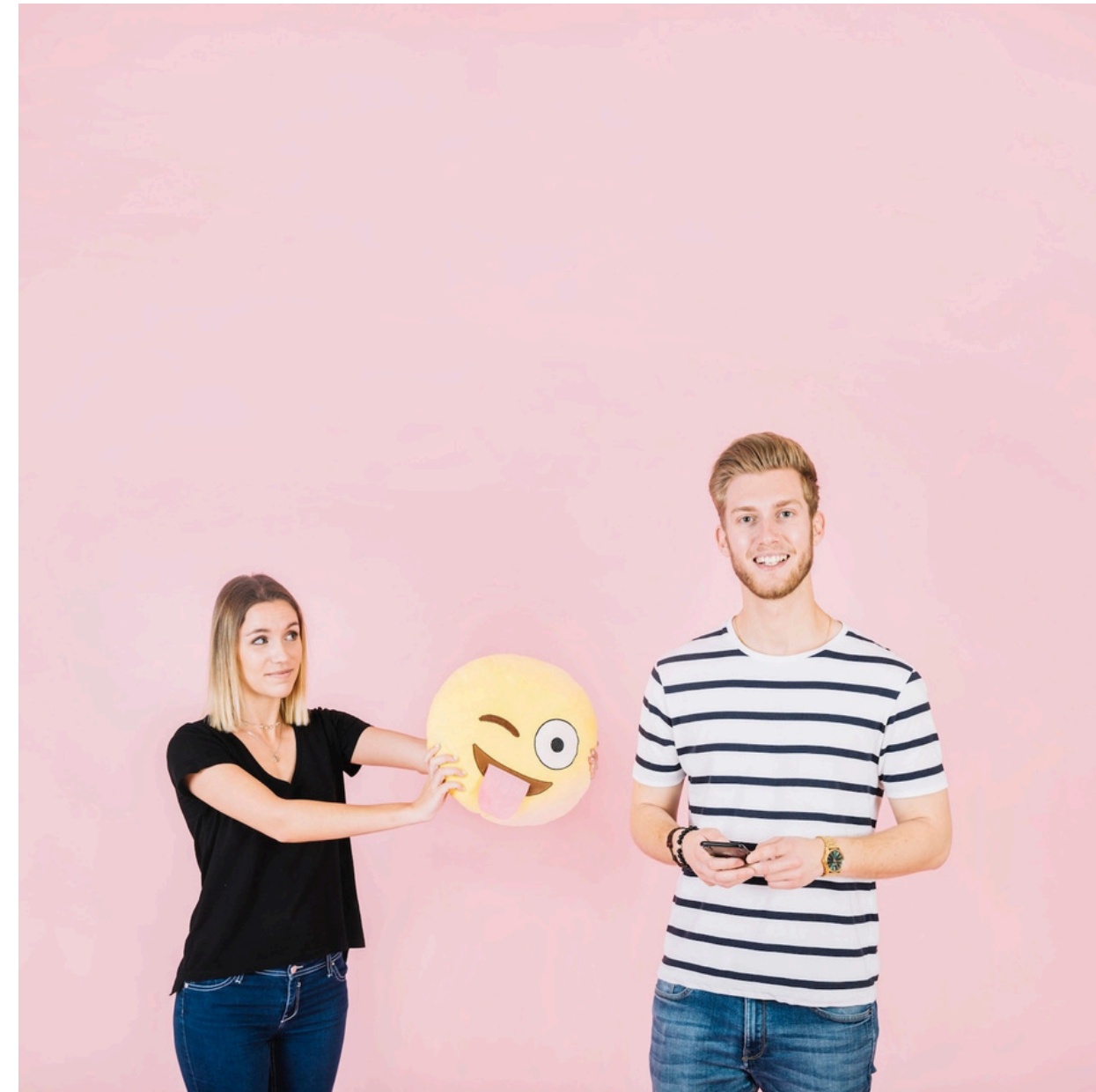


# Reported Speech



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Reported speech (also called indirect speech) is a way of reporting what someone said without quoting their exact words. Instead of using quotation marks, the speaker's words are rephrased, often with changes to pronouns, verb tenses, and time references.



### 1. No Quotation Marks

Direct speech: He said, "I am going to the park."

Reported speech: He said that he was going to the park.

### 2. Changes in Pronouns

Pronouns are adjusted to match the perspective of the person reporting.

Direct: She said, "I love my dog."

Reported: She said that she loved her dog.

### 3. Backshifting of Verb Tenses

When the reporting verb (e.g., said, told) is in the past, the verb tense in the reported speech usually shifts back.

Exceptions: No backshifting is needed if the statement is a universal truth or the reporting verb is in the present tense.

### 4. Changes in Time and Place References

Words like today, tomorrow, here are often replaced with relative references:

Direct: "I will do it tomorrow."

Reported: He said he would do it the next day.



## Examples of Changes

### 1. Statements

Direct: "I like coffee."

Reported: He said that he liked coffee.

### 2. Questions

Direct: "Where are you going?"

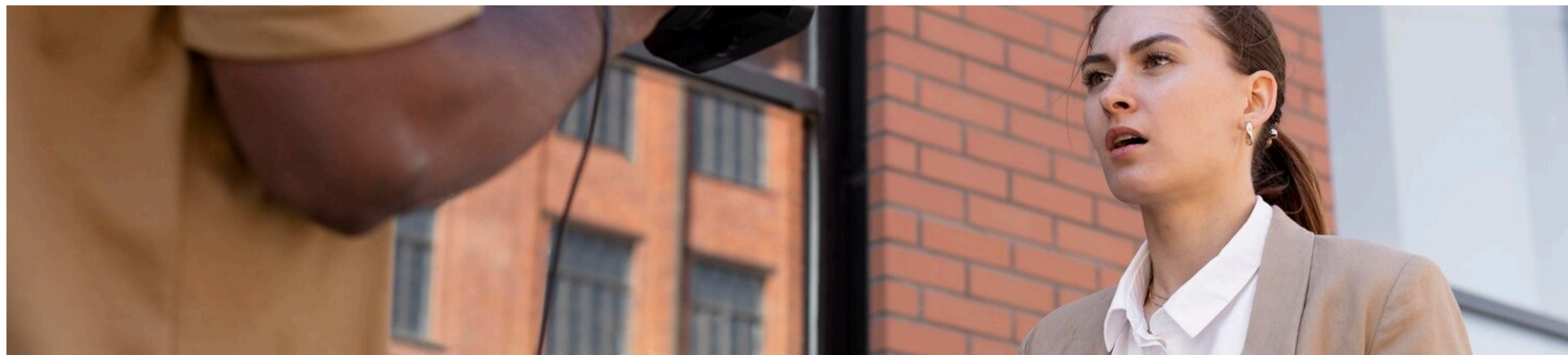
Reported: She asked where I was going.

### 3. Commands and Requests

Direct: "Please sit down."

Reported: He asked me to sit down.





## Reporting Verbs

Common verbs for reported speech include say, tell, ask, advise, explain, etc.

Use tell with a person: She told me that...

Use say without a person: She said that...