ESOL Level 3B Advanced Grammar Reference Sheets

Topic	Page
Parts of Speech	1-3
Types	1
Adjectives vs Adverbs	2
Adverbs of Frequency	2
Prepositions of Time and Space	3
Prepositions of Movement	4
Verb Tenses Formulas	5-6
Verb Tenses Explanations	7-8
Sentences with Two Verbs	9-10
Contractions	11
Modals	12-13
Gerunds and Infinitives	14
Conditionals	15
Comparatives & Superlatives	16
Used to / Be Used to / Get Used to	17
Passive Voice	18
Reported Speech	19

Parts of Speech Types

Туре	Function	Examples	Example Sentences
Nouns & Pronouns	 Nouns are people, places, or things. Pronouns are words that can take a noun's place. Nouns and pronouns can be subjects (S) or objects (O) of a sentence. Subjects come before the verb (V) and objects come after the verb. 	Nouns • woman • student • doctor • cat • house • city • beach • book • table • phone • you • she • we • they • they • us • my • your	 People like him. V O The girl ate an apple. S V O She went to Hawaii. S V O
Verbs	 Verbs are <u>actions</u>. Verbs typically come <u>after</u> the <u>subject</u> in a sentence. Imperative verbs can begin a sentence or be on their own. 	 run talk swim sing laugh study be buy have 	 Most birds fly. He buys milk. Jane is a teacher. Call me later! STOP!
Articles	 Articles give information about nouns (how many, general or specific, etc.). Articles come before a noun. 	• a • an • the	 I have a <u>puppy</u>. She is eating an <u>orange</u>. The <u>books</u> are over there.
Adjectives	 Adjectives describe nouns (size, color, feeling, etc.). Adjectives come before a noun or after the Be verb. 	 big green tired soft happy tall exciting 	I see a yellow <u>flower</u>The <u>flower</u> is yellow.
Adverbs	 Adverbs describe verbs (how, how often, etc.). Many adverbs end in -ly. "How" adverbs come after the verb. "How often" adverbs come before the verb. 	 "How" quickly carefully loudly sadly well "How Often" always never usually constantly sometimes 	"How" • She runs quickly. • He speaks softly. "How Often" • They always sing. • My brother never cooks.
Prepositions	 Prepositions give information about nouns (direction, time,.etc) Prepositions come before a noun 	inaroundtoatbetweenunder	 He is walking to school. My birthday is in July. I work at home.
Conjunctions	 Conjunctions join 2 sentences or 2 similar parts of speech. Conjunctions come between 2 nouns, 2 verbs, 2 adjectives, 2 adverbs, 2 phrases, or 2 sentences 	• for	 You can <u>call</u> or text <u>me</u>. Our cat is <u>cute</u> and <u>lazy</u>. She <u>brushes her teeth</u> and <u>washes her face</u> before bed. <u>I try hard</u>, but <u>keep failing</u>.

Adjectives vs Adverbs

· ·	Adjectives	Adverbs
Modifies	 Nouns The red car sped down the highway. Pronouns You look amazing in that outfit. 	 Verbs He ran quickly to catch the bus. Adjectives The movie was incredibly exciting. Other Adverbs She finished the test very quickly. Whole Sentences Unfortunately, we missed the last train.
Answers the Question	 What kind? The blue bag is mine. How many?/ How much? She has three cats. Which one? This is the best option. 	 How? She spoke softly during the meeting. When? They will arrive shortly. Where? The kids are playing outside. To what extent? (Degree/Intensity) He is extremely tired after the workout.

Adverbs of Frequency

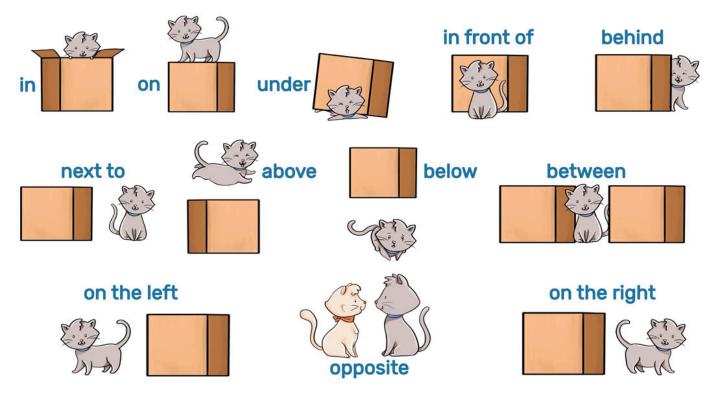
100% - Always	I always drink coffee in the morning.
90% - Usually	I usually drive to work.
80% - Normally	Normally, Kate doesn't go out late at night.
65% - Often	Mike often misses soccer practice.
50% - Sometimes	Sometimes I allow myself to eat junk food.
35% - Occasionally	Occasionally I go to New York to see my aunt.
20% - Seldom	Sam seldom meets with friends.
15% - Rarely	Barbara rarely watches TV.
5% - Hardly ever	My cat hardly ever likes strangers.
0% - Never	Jennifer never drinks alcohol.

Prepositions

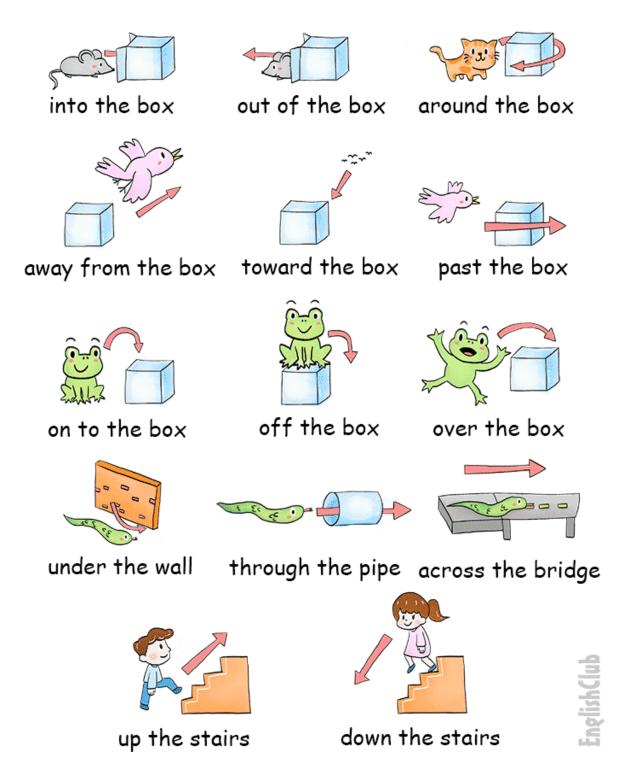
Prepositions of Time

At	In	On
Time of Day	Months/Seasons	Days
at 4 o'clock	• in April	on Tuesday
at 10:30pm	in the summer	on Saturday
at noon	in the spring	on my birthday
at midnight	Years/Decades/Centuries	on Christmas day
Mealtimes	• in 2000	on Halloween
at breakfast	• in the 90s	Dates
at dinnertime	in the 20th century	• on 15th June
Expressions	Long Periods	on test day
at present	• in the ice age	on our anniversary
at the moment	in the present	 on the weekend
at night	• in the past	on summer break
acgc	Parts of the Day	Parts of Specific Day
	• in the morning	on Monday morning
	in the afternoon	on Friday evening
	in the arternoon	on Saturday night
	• X at night (exception)	on Sunday afternoon
	at hight (exception)	• On Sunday arternoon
epositions of Space		

Prep



Prepositions of Movement



Verb Tenses Formulas

Base Form	Present Simple 3rd person	Continuous Form	Past Simple Form	Past Participle Form
(V1)	Form (V1-3rd)	(V1-ing)	(V2)	(V3)
verb	verb(-s)	verb-ing	past verb	past participle

	Affirmative	Negative	Question
Present Simple	subject + V1 or V1-3rd	subject + do(es) + not + V1	Do(es) + subject + V1 ?
Past Simple	subject + V2	subject + did + not + V1	Did + subject + V1 ?
Future Simple	subject + will + V1	subject + will + not + V1	Will + subject + V1 ?
Present Continuous	subject + am/is/are + V1-ing	subject + am/is/are + not + V1-ing	Am/Is/Are + subject + V1-ing ?
Past Continuous	subject + was/were + V1-ing	subject + was/were+ not + V1-ing	Was/Were + subject + V1-ing ?
Future Continuous	subject + will be + V1-ing	subject + will not be + V1-ing	Will + subject + be + V1-ing ?
Present Perfect	subject + have/has + V3	subject + have/has + not + V3	Have/Has + subject + V3
Past Perfect	subject + had + V3	subject + had + not + V3	Had + subject + V3
Future Perfect	subject + will + have + V3	subject + will + not + have + V3	Will + subject + have + V3
Present Perfect Continuous	subject + have/has + been + V1-ing	subject + have/has + not + been + V1-ing	Have/has + subject + been + V1-ing ?
Past Perfect Continuous	subject + had + been + V1-ing	subject + had + not + been + V1-ing	Had + subject + been + V1-ing ?
Future Perfect Continuous	subject + will have been + V1-ing	subject + won't have been + V1-ing	Will + subject + have been + V1-ing ?

Verb Tense Chart Example

Noun: he

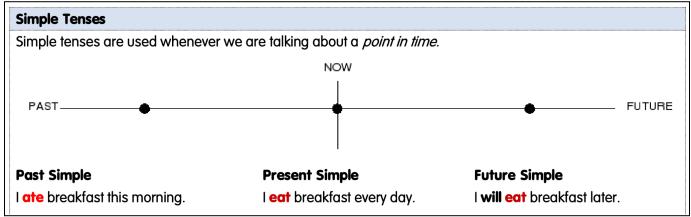
Verb: to walks

Base Form	Present Simple 3rd person	Continuous Form	Past Simple Form	Past Participle Form
(V1)	Form (V1-3rd)	(V1-ing)	(V2)	(V3)
walk	walks	walking	walked	walked

	Affirmative	Negative	Question
Present Simple	he walks	he doesn't walk Does he walk?	
Past Simple	he walked	he didn't walk	Did he walk?
Future Simple	he will walk	he won't walk	Will he walk?
Present Continuous	he is walking	he isn't walking	Is he walking?
Past Continuous	he was walking	he wasn't walking	Was he walking?
Future Continuous	he will be walking	he won't be walking Will he be walki	
Present Perfect	he has walked	he hasn't walked	Has he walked?
Past Perfect	he had walked	he hadn't walked	Had he walked?
Future Perfect	he will have walked	he won't have walked	Will he have walked?
Present Perfect Continuous	he has been walking	he hasn't been walking	Has he been walking?
Past Perfect Continuous	he had been walking	he hadn't been walking	Had he been walking?
Future Perfect Continuous	he will have been walking	he won't have been walking	Will he have been walking?

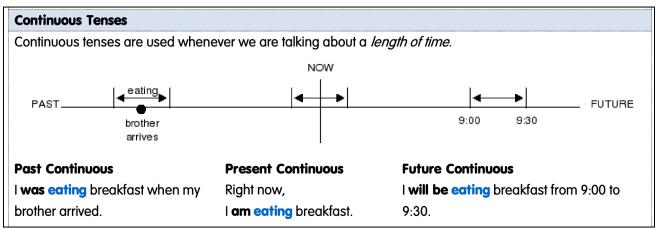
Verb Tenses Explanations

Simple Tense



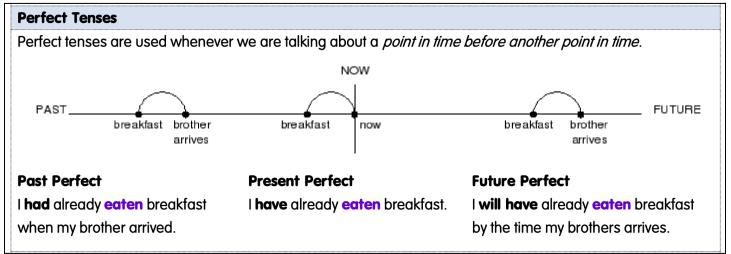
	Description	Affirmative	Negative	Question
Present Simple	General facts and routines.	l eat	I don't eat	Do I eat?
Past Simple	Completed actions in the past.	I ate	I didn't eat	Did I eat?
Future Simple	Predictions, plans, and promises.	I will eat	I won't eat	Will I eat?

Continuous Tense



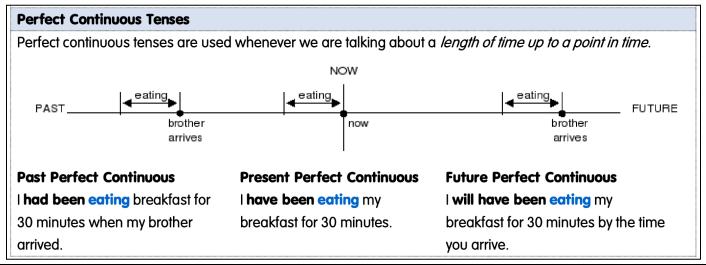
	Description	Affirmative	Negative	Question
Present Continuous	Actions happening now or near future.	I am eating	I'm not eating	Am I eating?
Past Continuous	Ongoing actions in the past.	I was eating	I wasn't eating	Was I eating?
Future Continuous	Ongoing actions in the future.	I will be eating	I won't be eating	Will I be eating?

Perfect Tense



	Description	Affirmative	Negative	Question
Present Perfect	Actions completed with a connection to now.	I have eaten	I haven't eaten	Have I eaten?
Past Perfect	Actions completed before another past event.	I had eaten	I hadn't eaten	Had I eaten?
Future Perfect	Actions that will be finished in the future.	I will have eaten	I won't have eaten	Will I have eaten?

Perfect Continuous Tense



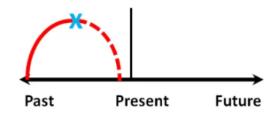
	Description	Affirmative	Negative	Question
Present Perfect Continuous	Actions that started in the past, continue into the present, and may continue into the future.	I have been eating	I haven't been eating	Have I been eating?
Past Perfect	Actions that were ongoing in the past	I had been	I hadn't been	Had I been
Continuous	until another point in the past.	eating	eating	eating?
Future Perfect	Actions that will have been ongoing	I will have	I won't have been	Will I have been
Continuous	up to a certain point in the future.	been eating	eating	eating?

Sentences with Two Verbs

Tense	Main Clause Tense	Interruption Tense
Past Continuous	Past Continuous	Past Simple
Past Perfect	Past Perfect	Past Simple
Future Perfect	Future Perfect	Present Simple
Past Perfect Continuous	Past Perfect Cont.	Past Simple
Future Perfect Continuous	Future Perfect Cont.	Present Simple

Rule of thumb: If the main clause is in the **past** tense \rightarrow interruption is in **past** too If the main clause is in the **future** tense \rightarrow interruption is in **present**

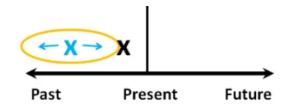
Past Continuous:



While I was studying last night, the power went out.

When it **started** to rain, they **were waiting** for the bus.

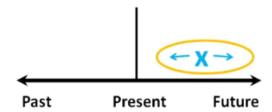
Past Perfect:



She had cleaned for two hours when her husband finally arrived home.

She had never seen such a beautiful sunset before she traveled to Hawaii.

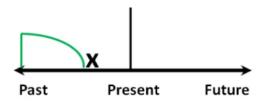
Future Perfect:



By the time the guests arrive, we will have prepared a delicious feast.

He will have run twenty miles per week by the time he runs the marathon next month.

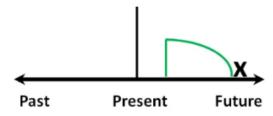
Past Perfect Continuous:



They had been living in cold weather for ten years before they **moved** to a warmer climate.

By the time the repairman arrived, the machine had not been working for days.

Future Continuous Perfect:



They will have been traveling for three weeks when they meet up with their friends.

When his mom visits this summer, he will have been living in Boston for five years.

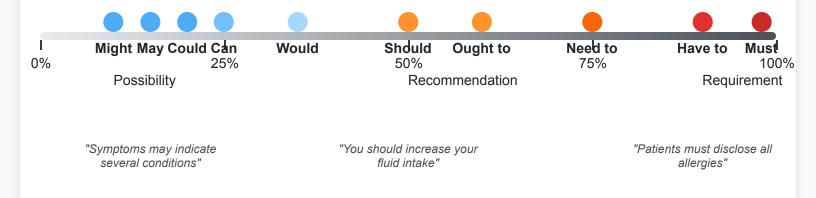
Contractions

Full Form	Contraction	Full Form	Contraction
l am	I'm	He would / He had	He'd
You are	You're	She would / She had	She'd
He is	He's	It would / It had	lt'd
She is	She's	We would / We had	We'd
It is	It's	They would / They had	They'd
We are	We're	Is not	lsn't
They are	They're	Are not	Aren't
I have	l've	Was not	Wasn't
You have	You've	Were not	Weren't
We have	We've	Have not	Haven't
They have	They've	Has not	Hasn't
l will	11'11	Had not	Hadn't
You will	You'll	Do not	Don't
He will	He'll	Does not	Doesn't
She will	She'll	Did not	Didn't
It will	It'll	Will not	Won't
We will	We'll	Would not	Wouldn't
They will	They'll	Cannot	Can't
I would / I had	l'd	Could not	Couldn't
You would / You had	You'd	Should not	Shouldn't

Modals

Modal	Uses	Present / Future	Past
be supposed to	expectation	We are supposed to meet them here.	We were supposed to meet here.
can / could	Can - ability, permission, polite request; impossibility (negative only) Could - past ability, polite request	Can I learn modal verbs? You can use my car.	I could jump high but can't now. That can't be true!
have to	necessity; lack of necessity (negative)	I have to go to class. I don't have to go.	I had to go to class. I didn't have to go.
had better	strong advice	You had better be on time.	(past form uncommon)
may	polite request; permission; <50% certainty	May I borrow your book? He may be there.	He may have been there.
might	<50% certainty	He might be at school.	He might have been there.
must	strong necessity; prohibition; 95% certainty	I must go to class. You must not open that.	Mary must have been sick.
ought to	advisability; 80% certainty	I ought to study.	I ought to have studied.
shall	ask opinion (with "I" or "we"); suggestions, formal offers	Shall we dance? Shall we go to dinner?	
should	advisability; 80% certainty	I should study.	You should have paid bills.
will	promises, decisions, future predictions	I will call you tomorrow. It will rain soon.	
would	polite request; future in the past; habitual past	Would you pass the salt? I would go to Mexico with you.	I would have gone if I could.

Modal Verbs in Healthcare: Certainty and Obligation Scale



For healthcare communication in professional contexts

Modal Verbs by Certainty/Obligation Level:

Low Certainty/Obligation (0-25%)

- Might (~10%): "This treatment might work for your condition."
- May (~15%): "You may experience some mild side effects."
- Could (~20%): "Your dizziness could be related to the new medication."
- Can (~25%): "You can take this medication with or without food."

Moderate Certainty/Obligation (25-75%)

- Would (~35%): "If your symptoms worsen, I would recommend coming back immediately."
- Should (~50%): "You should rest for at least 48 hours after the procedure."
- Ought to (~60%): "Patients ought to inform staff about any allergies."

High Certainty/Obligation (75-100%)

- Need to (~75%): "You need to complete the full course of antibiotics."
- Have to (~90%): "You have to remain NPO (nothing by mouth) after midnight."
- Must (100%): "This form must be signed before the procedure."

Gerunds and Infinitives

Gerunds	Infinitives	
Subject = Gerund Swimming is fun!	Adjective + Infinitive It's nice <u>to meet</u> you.	
Preposition + Gerund She thought about <u>calling</u> him later	Noun + Infinitive You asked me <u>to call</u> you.	
Verb + Gerund He enjoys <u>learning</u> English.	Verb + Infinitive We want <u>to visit</u> Mexico this year.	

Verbs Commonly Following ...

Gerunds (-ing) Ex. He enjoys <u>eating</u> ice cream.	Infinitives (to + verb) Ex. We ask to switch seats.	Either Ex. I love to sing. I love singing.
admitadvise	afford agree	begincontinue
appreciate	• appear	• hate
• avoid	• ask	• like
• complete	• decide	• love
• consider	• expect	• prefer
• deny	• hope	• start
• discuss	• intend	
• dislike	• learn	
• enjoy	• mean	
• finish	• need	
• imagine	• offer	
• keep	• plan	
• mention	• prepare	
• mind	• promise	
• miss	• refuse	
• practice	• seem	
• quit	• volunteer	
• recommend	• wait	
• suggest	• want	

Conditionals

Sentences that describe cause and effect situations, usually involving a condition and a result.

Conditional Type	Usage	If Clause Formula	Main Clause Formula	Example
				If you heat water to 100°C, it boils .
Zero	General truths/scientific facts	If + Present Simple	Present Simple	The sidewalk gets wet if it rains.
First	Real/possible future situations	If + Present Simple	Future Simple	If it rains tomorrow, I will stay home.
	Situations			You will succeed in school if you work hard.
Second	Unreal/hypothetical	If + Past Simple	would + Base Verb	If I won the lottery, I would travel the world.
	present/future n r ust simple		She would cook more if she had the time.	
				If I had known about the party, I would have gone .
Third	Unreal past situations	If + Past Perfect	would + Present Perfect	They would have arrived earlier if they had taken the train.

Comparatives & Superlatives

When do we use them?

- To compare two or more people, places, or things.
- To show differences in quality, quantity, or degree.

Comparatives (two things)

Formula:

Shorter: adjective + -er + than

• Example: taller than, colder than

Longer: more/less + adjective + than

 Example: more interesting than, less helpful than

Examples:

- My house is **bigger than** yours.
- This book is **more interesting than** that one.
- Today is **less cold than** yesterday.

Irregular Comparatives:

- good → better
- bad → worse
- $far \rightarrow farther / further$

Superlatives (three or more)

Formula:

Shorter: the + adjective + -est

• Example: the tallest, the coldest

Longer: the most/least + adjective

• Example: the most expensive, the least helpful

Examples:

- She is the **tallest** in the class.
- This is the **most expensive** restaurant in town.
- That was the **least helpful** answer.

Irregular Superlatives:

- $good \rightarrow the best$
- bad \rightarrow the worst
- far → the farthest / the furthest

Adjective Type	Comparative	Superlative
One-syllable (tall)	taller	the tallest
Two-syllable ending in -y (happy)	happier	the happiest
Longer adjectives (expensive)	more expensive	the most expensive
Irregular (good)	better	the best

Used to / Get Used to / Be Used to

Quick Comparison

Expression	Meaning	Structure	Example
used to	Past habits or states (not now)	used to + base verb	I used to smoke.
get used to	Becoming comfortable over time	get + used to + noun/gerund	He got used to his new job.
be used to	Comfortable/accustom ed to something	be + used to + noun/gerund	She is used to eating rice.



	Affirmative	Negative	Question
Used to	Subject + used to + V1 I used to play soccer.	Subject + didn't use to + V1 She didn't use to drink coffee.	Did + subject + use to + V1 ? Did he use to run every day?
Get Used to	Subject + get/got + used to + noun/gerund She got used to driving in the city.	Subject + don't/didn't + get + used to + noun/gerund He didn't get used to night shifts.	Do/Did + subject + get + used to + noun/gerund? Did you get used to your new schedule?
Be Used to	Subject + be + used to + noun/gerund I am used to studying at night.	Subject + be + not + used to + noun/gerund We aren't used to the cold.	Be + subject + used to + noun/gerund? Are you used to living in Boston?

Passive Voice

In a passive sentence, the subject does not do the action. The subject receives the action. Passive voice is used when the **person or thing doing the action is unknown, unimportant, or obvious** — or when the focus is on the **result or the object** of the action.

Examples:

Passive: The book was read by Maria. → (The book receives the action.)

Active: Maria read the book. → (Maria does the action.)

Tense	Formula	Passive Voice	Active Voice
Present Simple	am / is / are + V3	The homework is checked by the teacher.	The teacher checks the homework.
Past Simple	was / were + V3	The window was broken by the ball.	The ball broke the window.
Present Continuous	am / is / are + being + V3	A pizza is being delivered now.	Someone is delivering a pizza now.
Past Continuous	was / were + being + V3	The chairs were being moved.	Workers were moving the chairs.
Present Perfect	have / has + been + V3	The test has been finished .	The students have finished the test.
Past Perfect	had + been + V3	The keys had been found .	She had found the keys.
Future Simple	will + be + V3	The project will be completed by Friday.	They will complete the project by Friday.
Modal Verbs	modal + be + V3	The room should be cleaned .	You should clean the room.

Common Reasons to Use Passive Voice:

1. We don't know who did the action

→ *The window was broken.* (We don't know who broke it.)

2. The person who did it isn't important

→ The homework was collected. (We care more about the homework than who collected it.)

3. The focus is on the result, not the doer

→ The vaccine was developed in record time. (The vaccine is the focus.)

4. It sounds more formal or polite

→ *A mistake was made.* (Instead of "You made a mistake.")

5. The doer is obvious

 \rightarrow He was arrested. (By the police — obvious

Reported Speech

Reported speech (indirect speech) is used to tell someone what another person said without using their exact words. This will be essential for your life story interview project!

Verb Tense Changes

Direct Speech	Reported Speech	Example
Present Simple	Past Simple	Grandma: "I live in Chicago."
"I work as a teacher."	He said (that) he worked as a teacher.	Report: Grandma said she lived in Chicago.
Present Continuous	Past Continuous	Uncle: "I am looking for a new job."
"I am studying medicine."	She told me she was studying medicine.	Report: Uncle said he was looking for a new job.
Past Simple	Past Perfect	Grandpa: "I moved here in 1960."
"I graduated in 1975."	He said he had graduated in 1975.	Report: Grandpa told me he had moved there in 1960.
Present Perfect	Past Perfect	Aunt: "I have worked at this company for 30 years."
"I have lived here for 20	She said she had lived there for	company for 30 years.
years."	20 years.	Report: My aunt mentioned she had worked at that company for 30 years.
Future	Would	Dad: "I will teach you to cook someday."
"I will visit next year."	He said he would visit the next year.	Report: Dad promised he would teach me to cook someday.

Time & Place Expression Changes

Direct Speech	Reported Speech	Example
today	that day	"I feel sick today ." → She said she felt sick that day.
yesterday	the day before	"I visited my cousin yesterday ." → He said he had visited his cousin the day before .
tomorrow	the next day	"I will call you tomorrow ." → She promised she would call me the next day .
this week	that week	"I'm very busy this week. " \rightarrow He explained he was very busy that week .
last month	the month before	"We moved here last month ." → They told me they had moved there the month before .
next year	the following year	"I'll graduate next year ." → She said she would graduate the following year.
here	there	"I grew up here ." → She mentioned she had grown up there .
this	that	"I love this neighborhood." → He said he loved that neighborhood.
these	those	" These photos are from my childhood." → She explained that those photos were from her childhood.

Reporting Questions

Yes/No Questions: Use "if" or "whether"

• *Direct:* "Do you remember your first job?"

 Reported: I asked him if he remembered his first job.

Wh-Questions: Keep the question word

• Direct: "Where did you grow up?"

 Reported: I asked her where she had grown up.

Useful Reporting Verbs

admitted: acknowledged something reluctantly **claimed:** stated something that might be doubted

denied: said something wasn't true explained: gave details or reasons insisted: said something firmly mentioned: referred to briefly suggested: proposed an idea

advised: recommended something
complained: expressed dissatisfaction

promised: gave one's word