

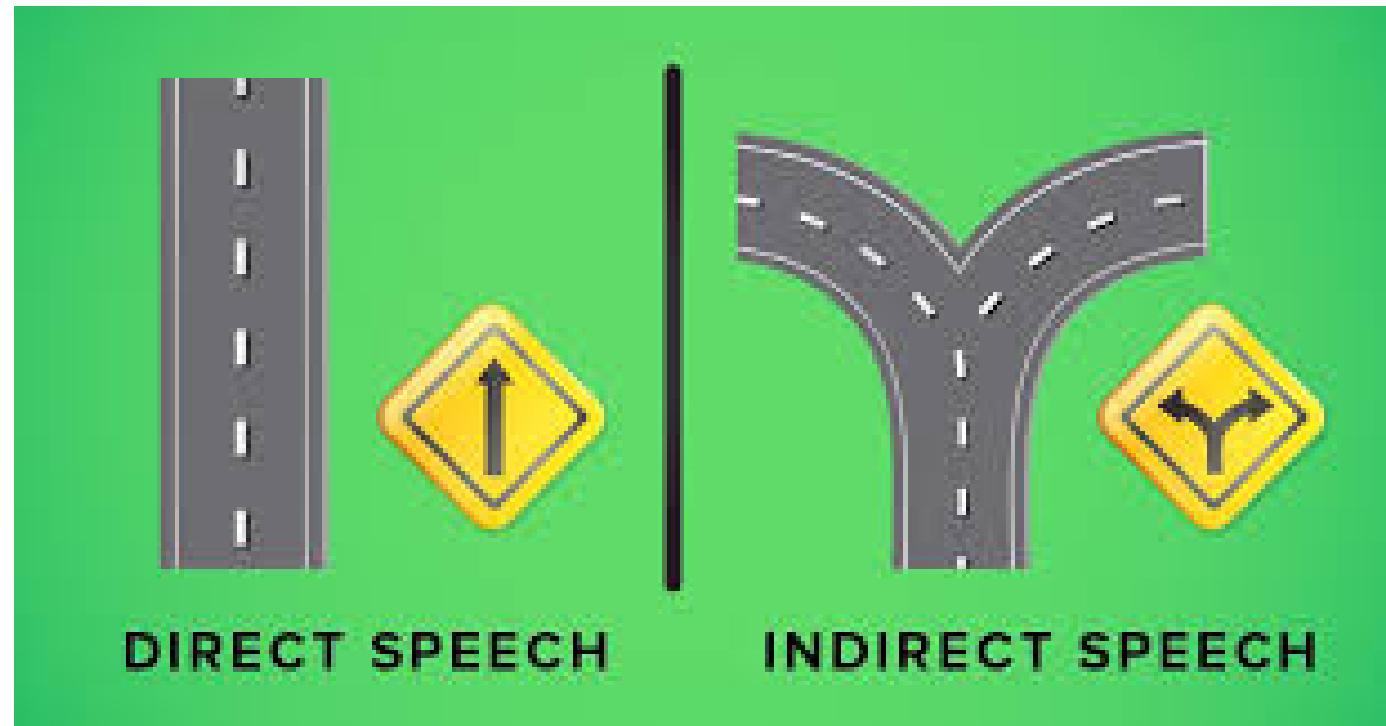


# DIRECT & INDIRECT SPEECH

REPORTED SPEECH /NARRATION



# WHAT IS DIRECT & INDIRECT



# DIRECT & INDIRECT SPEECH

- Direct and indirect speech can be a source of confusion for English learners.
- Let's first define the terms, then look at how to talk about what someone said, and how to convert speech from direct to indirect or vice-versa.
- You can answer the question *What did he say?* in two ways:
  - by repeating the words spoken (direct speech)
  - by reporting the words spoken (indirect or reported speech).



# DIRECT SPEECH

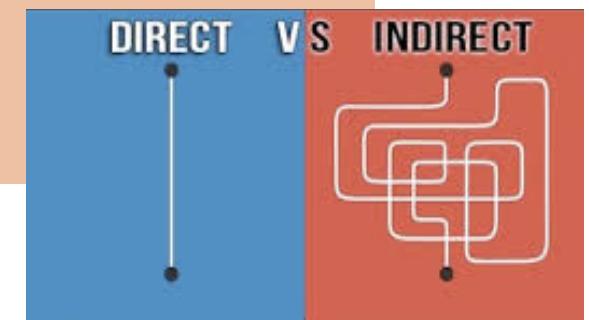
- Direct speech repeats, or quotes, the exact words spoken.
- When we use direct speech in writing, we place the words spoken between quotation marks (" ") and there is no change in these words.
- We may be reporting something that's being said NOW (for example a telephone conversation), or telling someone later about a previous conversation.

## ■ Examples

- She says, "What time will you be home?"
- She said, "What time will you be home?" and I said, "I don't know! "
- "There's a fly in my soup!" screamed Simone

# INDIRECT SPEECH

- Reported or indirect speech is usually used to talk about the past, so we normally change the tense of the words spoken.
- We use reporting verbs like 'say', 'tell', 'ask', and we may use the word 'that' to introduce the reported words.
- Inverted commas are not used.
- She said, "I saw him." (direct speech) = She said **that she had seen him.** (indirect speech)
- "That" may be omitted:  
She told him *that* she was happy. = She told him she was happy.





- Sentence structure
- Verbs
- Persons

# CHANGES OF PERSONS

<b>Direct Speech</b>	<b>Reported Speech</b>	<b>Direct Speech</b>	<b>Reported Speech</b>
I	He, she	Me	Him, her
We	They	Us	Them
You	He, she, they	You	Him, Her, them
My	His, her	Mine	His, hers
Our	Their	Ours	Theirs
Your	His, her, their	Yours	His, hers, theirs

# TENSE CHANGED IN REPORTED SPEECH

<u>Phrase in direct speech</u>	<u>Equivalent in reported speech</u>
Simple present	Simple past
"I always drink coffee", she said	She said that she always drank coffee.
Present continuous	Past continuous
"I am reading a book", he explained.	He explained that he was reading a book
Simple past	Past perfect
"Bill arrived on Saturday", he said.	He said that Bill had arrived on Saturday.

Present perfect	Past perfect
"I have been to Spain", he told me.	He told me that he had been to Spain.
Past perfect	Past perfect
"I had just turned out the light," he explained.	He explained that he had just turned out the light.
Present perfect continuous	Past perfect continuous
They complained, "We have been waiting for hours".	They complained that they had been waiting for hours.

Past continuous	Past perfect continuous
"We were living in Paris", they told me.	They told me that they had been living in Paris.
Future	Present conditional
"I will be in Geneva on Monday", he said.	He said that he would be in Geneva on Monday.
Future continuous	Conditional continuous
She said, "I'll be using the car next Friday".	She said that she would be using the car next Friday.

# Changes of Tenses

CAN



COULD

WILL



WOULD

SHALL



SHOULD

MAY



MIGHT

## SENTENCE USAGE

Will	I'll <b>see</b> you later.	He said he <b>would see</b> me later.
Would	I <b>would</b> help, but...	He said he <b>would help</b> but...
Can	I <b>can</b> speak perfect Spanish.	He said he <b>could speak</b> perfect Spanish.
Could	I <b>could</b> swim when I was four.	He said he <b>could swim</b> when he was four.
Should	I <b>should</b> call my mother	He said he <b>should call</b> her mother.
Might	I <b>might</b> be late.	He said he <b>might be</b> late.

## SENTENCE USAGE

- You do not need to change the tense if the reporting verb is in the present, or if the original statement was about something that is still true, OR it's a universal truth e.g.
- He says **he has missed** the train but **he'll catch** the next one.
- We explained that **it is** very difficult to find our house.



# UNIVERSAL TRUTH

Direct Speech	Indirect Speech
Stating a universal truth	
The teacher said, "The Sun rises in the east."	The teacher said that the sun rises in the east.
Talking about a future event	
"Next week's lesson is on reported speech", she said.	She said next week's lesson will be on reported speech.
Stating about a habit	
The boy said, "I brush my teeth every day."	The boy said that he brushes his teeth every day.



## TIME AND PLACE CHANGE IN SPEECH

### TIME AND PLACE IN REPORTED SPEECH

DIRECT SPEECH	REPORTED SPEECH	DIRECT SPEECH	REPORTED SPEECH
Now	Then	"The children are playing outside <b>now</b> ."	He said that the children were playing outside <b>then</b> .
Today	That day	"I've got a piano lesson <b>today</b> ."	She said that she had got a piano lesson <b>that day</b> .
Here	There	"Put the box <b>here</b> ."	He told us to put the box <b>there</b> .

<b>This</b>	<b>That</b>	<b>"I shall be very busy <b>this</b> week."</b>	<b>She said she would be very busy <b>that</b> week.</b>
<b>Next week</b>	<b>The following week/ the next week/ the week after</b>	<b>"I have an appointment <b>next</b> week."</b>	<b>She said that she had an appointment <b>the following</b> week.</b>
<b>Tomorrow</b>	<b>The following day/ the next day/ the day after</b>	<b>"I will leave for New York <b>tomorrow.</b>"</b>	<b>She said that she would leave for New York <b>the next day.</b></b>

Yesterday	The previous day/ The day before	"Our English teacher quizzed us <b>yesterday</b> ."	They said their English teacher had quizzed them <b>the day before</b> .
Last week	The previous week/ The week before	"We had an awful earthquake <b>last week</b> ."	They told us they had had an awful earthquake <b>the previous week</b> .
Ago	Previously/ Before	"The letter came a few days <b>ago</b> ."	He said the letter had come a few days <b>before</b> .
Tonight	That night	"I'm going for a beer with Karl <b>tonight</b> ."	He said that he was going for beer with Karl <b>that night</b> .

## QUESTIONS

- He said, “I do not like computers”.
- I said, “ It is raining”.
- She said, “He has finished his work.”
- They said, “ we are enjoying the weather.”
- He said, “I will study the book.”

## ANSWERS

- He said that he did not like computers.
- I said that it was raining.
- She said that he had finished his work.
- They said that they were enjoying the weather.
- He said that he would study the book.



# PART 2



## DIRECT AND INDIRECT SPEECH

## QUESTION FORMS AND REPORTED SPEECH

- Normal word order is used in reported questions, that is, the subject comes before the verb, and it is not necessary to use 'do' or 'did':

### Direct speech

"Where does Peter live?"

"Where are you going?"

"Why is she crying?"

### Indirect speech

She asked him where Peter lived.

She asked where I was going.

He asked why she was crying

## YES\ NO TYPE QUESTIONS

<u>Direct speech</u>	<u>Indirect speech</u>
"Do you speak English?"	He asked me if I spoke English.
"Are you British or American?"	He asked me whether I was British or American.
"Is it raining?"	She asked if it was raining.
"Have you got a computer?"	He wanted to know whether I had a computer.
"Can you type?"	She asked if I could type.
"Did you come by train?"	He enquired whether I had come by train.
"Have you been to Bristol before?"	She asked if I had been to Bristol before.

## REPORTING VERBS

No, thanks. I don't  
want to eat.



It looks  
like my  
mother



What will  
I be when I  
grow up?



I didn't steal  
the money.



ALIENS HAVE  
LANDED IN  
NEW YORK!



I am going to  
quit my job!



# REPORTING VERBS

## Verbs followed by a "that"

ask

know

remember

say

see

## Verbs followed by a "that"

add

admit

agree

announce

answer

argue

boast

claim

comment

complain

confirm

consider

deny

doubt

estimate

explain

fear

feel

insist

mention

observe

persuade

propose

remark

remember

repeat

reply

report

reveal

say

state

suggest

suppose

tell

think

understand

warn

## **Verbs followed by either "that" or an infinitive with "to"**

add  
admit  
agree  
announce  
answer  
argue  
boast  
claim  
comment  
complain  
confirm  
consider  
deny

doubt  
estimate  
explain  
fear  
feel  
insist  
mention  
observe  
persuade  
propose  
remark  
remember  
repeat

reply  
report  
reveal  
say  
state  
suggest  
suppose  
tell  
think  
understand  
warn

## **Verbs followed by either "that" or an infinitive with "to"**

decide  
expect  
guarantee  
hope

promise  
swear  
threaten

## **Verbs followed by a "that" clause containing should, which may be omitted, leaving a subject + zero-infinitive**

advise  
beg  
demand

insist  
prefer  
propose

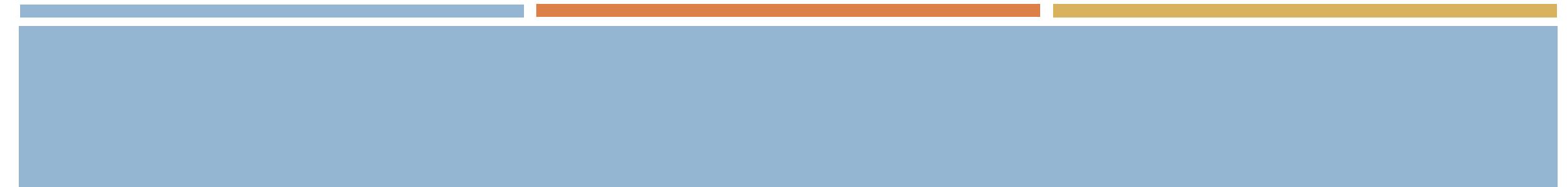
recommend  
request  
suggest

## **Verbs followed by object + infinitive with "to"**

advise  
ask  
beg  
command

forbid  
instruct  
invite

teach  
tell  
warn



## Verbs followed by a clause starting with a question word

decide	imagine	see
describe	know	suggest
discover	learn	teach
discuss	realise	tell
explain	remember	think
forget	reveal	understand
guess	say	wonder

# REPORTING ORDER, REQUEST, & SUGGESTION

## Reporting orders and requests

When we want to report an order or request, we can use a **verb like 'tell'** with a to-clause: *He told me to go away.*

The pattern is **verb + indirect object + to-clause**. The indirect object is the person spoken to.

Other verbs used to report orders and requests in this way are: **command, order, warn, ask, advise, invite, beg, teach, & forbid.**

### Direct speech

The doctor said to me, "Stop smoking!".

"Get out of the car!" said the policeman.

"Could you please be quiet," she said.

The man with the gun said to us, "Don't move!"

### Indirect speech

The doctor told me to stop smoking.

The policeman ordered him to get out of the car.

She asked me to be quiet.

The man with the gun warned us not to move.

## REQUEST FOR OBJECTS

- Requests for objects are reported using the pattern "asked for" + object.

### Direct speech

"Can I have an apple?", she asked.

"Can I have the newspaper, please?"

"May I have a glass of water?" he said.

"Sugar, please."

"Could I have three kilos of onions?"

### Indirect speech

She asked for an apple.

He asked for the newspaper.

He asked for a glass of water.

She asked for the sugar.

He asked for three kilos of onions.

## SUGGESTION

- Suggestions are most often reported using the verbs suggest, insist, recommend, demand, request, and propose followed by a that clause.
- 'That' and 'should' are optional in these clauses, as shown in the first two examples below.
- **Note that suggest, recommend, and propose may also be followed by a gerund in order to eliminate the indirect object (the receiver of the suggestion) and thus make the suggestion more polite.**
- This usage of the gerund is illustrated in the fourth and fifth examples below.

## Direct speech

She said, "Why don't you get a mechanic to look at the car?"

"Why don't you go to the doctor?" he said.

"It would be a good idea to see the dentist", said my mother.

The dentist said, "I think you should use a different toothbrush".

You said, "I don't think you have time to see the dentist this week."

I said, "I don't think you should see the dentist this week."

My manager said, "I think we should examine the budget carefully at this meeting."

"Why don't you sleep overnight at my house?" she said.

## Indirect speech

She suggested that I should get a mechanic to look at the car. OR  
She suggested I should get a mechanic to look at the car. OR  
She suggested that I get a mechanic to look at the car. OR  
She suggested I get a mechanic to look at the car.

He suggested I go to the doctor. OR

He suggested that I go to the doctor. OR

He suggested I should go to the doctor. OR

He suggested that I should go to the doctor.

My mother suggested I see the dentist.

The dentist recommended using a different toothbrush.

You suggested postponing my visit to the dentist.

I suggested postponing your visit to the dentist.

My manager proposed that we examine the budget carefully at the meeting.

She suggested that I sleep overnight at her house.

# EXCLAMATORY SENTENCE --- REPORTED SPEECH

## RULES

Words such as Alas, Bravo, Oh, Wow  
Should be left out while changing into indirect speech.

Forms of the verb ‘wish’ is used if the sentence conveys a wish.

## DIRECT SPEECH

Ram said, “I have been ruined.”

She said, “ If I were a bird.”

## INDIRECT SPEECH

Ram exclaimed with sorrow that he had been ruined.

She wished to be a bird.  
She wished that she was a bird.

## EXERCISE

1. Rahul asked me, 'Did you see the cricket match on TV last night?'
  
2. James said to his mother, 'I am leaving for New York tomorrow.'
  
3. I said to him, 'Why don't you work hard?'
  
4. He said to her, 'What a hot day!'
  
5. The priest said, 'Be quiet and listen to my words.'

## ANSWER

1. a) Rahul asked me if I had seen the cricket match on TV the previous night.
- 2. c) James told his mother that he was leaving for New York the next day.
- 3. b) I asked him why he didn't work hard.
- 4. c) He exclaimed that it was a hot day.
- 5. c) The priest urged them to be quiet and to listen to his words