

MPSC Meghalaya LDA: English Grammar - Direct & Indirect Speech

(50 Highest-Probability Solved MCQs)

Verbal Ability Series

Part I: Quick Strategy for Direct & Indirect Speech

- **Reporting Verb Changes:**
 - Assertive: *said to* → told; *said* → said.
 - Interrogative: *said to* → asked/enquired.
 - Imperative: *said to* → requested/ordered/advised.
- **Conjunctions:** Use '**that**' for statements, '**if/whether**' for Yes/No questions, and '**to/not to**' for commands/requests. Wh-questions use the question word itself.
- **Tense Backshifting:** If the reporting verb is in the past, change:
 - Simple Present → Simple Past
 - Present Continuous → Past Continuous
 - Simple Past → Past Perfect
 - Will/Can/May → Would/Could/Might
- **Exceptions:** Do **not** change the tense for Universal Truths or Habitual Actions.
- **Proximity Changes:** *Now* → then; *Today* → that day; *Here* → there; *This* → that; *Tomorrow* → the next day.

Part II: Practice MCQs (50 High-Probability Entries)

1. "What makes you so sad?" She asked Jane. [Ans: (C)]
 - (a) She asked Jane what makes her so sad.
 - (b) She asks Jane what makes her so sad.
 - (c) She asked Jane what made her so sad.
 - (d) She asked Jane that makes her so sad.
2. Ben said to Betty, "Will you help me with my project just now?" [Ans: (B)]
 - (a) Ben told Betty whether if she would help him in her project just then.
 - (b) Ben asked Betty if she would help him in his project just then.
 - (c) Ben questioned to Betty that will you help me in my project just now.
 - (d) Ben asked to Betty that she will help him in his work just now.
3. She asked Ravi, "What is worrying you?" [Ans: (D)]
 - (a) She asked Ravi what is worrying him.
 - (b) She asks Ravi what was worrying him.

- (c) She asks Ravi what is worrying him.
(d) She asked Ravi what was worrying him.
4. "Please don't cry", he said. [Ans: (B)]
(a) He begged that I should not cry.
(b) He begged me not to cry.
(c) He said to please him and not to cry.
(d) He told me to not to cry.
5. I said to him, "Will you go to Delhi?" [Ans: (C)]
(a) I asked him will he go to Delhi.
(b) I said to him would he go to Delhi.
(c) I asked him if he would go to Delhi.
(d) I said to him would you go to Delhi.
6. He said to his father, "Please increase my pocket money." [Ans: (C)]
(a) He told his father, "Please increase the pocket money."
(b) He pleaded his father to please increase my pocket money.
(c) He requested his father to increase his pocket money.
(d) He asked his father to increase his pocket money.
7. She said that her brother is getting married. [Ans: (B)]
(a) She said, "Her brother is getting married."
(b) She said, "My brother is getting married."
(c) She told, "Her brother is getting married."
(d) He said, "My brother was getting married."
8. The boy said, "Who dared call me a thief?" [Ans: (A)]
(a) The boy enquired who dared call him a thief.
(b) The boy asked who called him a thief.
(c) The boy told that who dared call him a thief.
(d) The boy wondered who dared call a thief.
9. Nita ordered her servant to bring her a cup of tea. [Ans: (C)]
(a) Nita told her servant, "Bring a cup of tea."
(b) Nita said, "Bring me a cup of tea."
(c) Nita said to her servant, "Bring me a cup of tea."
(d) Nita told her servant, "Bring her that cup of tea."
10. "Please don't go away", she said. [Ans: (B)]
(a) She said to please not go away.
(b) She begged me not to go away.
(c) She told that I should not go away.
(d) She requested that don't go away.
11. The teacher said, "The Earth revolves around the Sun." [Ans: (A)]

- (a) The teacher said that the Earth revolves around the Sun.
(b) The teacher said that the Earth revolved around the Sun.
(c) The teacher told that Earth revolves around the Sun.
(d) The teacher said Earth revolves around Sun.
12. He said, "I am reading a book." [Ans: (C)]
- (a) He said that he is reading a book.
(b) He said that I am reading a book.
(c) He said that he was reading a book.
(d) He told that he read a book.
13. Rahul said to me, "Where are you going?" [Ans: (B)]
- (a) Rahul asked me where I am going.
(b) Rahul asked me where I was going.
(c) Rahul asked to me where I was going.
(d) Rahul said to me where I was going.
14. "Call the first witness," said the judge. [Ans: (C)]
- (a) The judge said to call the first witness.
(b) The judge told to call the first witness.
(c) The judge commanded them to call the first witness.
(d) The judge asked for the first witness.
15. He said, "Alas! I am undone." [Ans: (B)]
- (a) He said sadly that he was undone.
(b) He exclaimed sadly that he was undone.
(c) He exclaimed that he is undone.
(d) He told that he was undone.
16. She said, "I will be there at noon." [Ans: (D)]
- (a) She said that she will be there at noon.
(b) She told that she would be there at noon.
(c) She says that she would be there at noon.
(d) She said that she would be there at noon.
17. "Are you coming with us?" they asked him. [Ans: (A)]
- (a) They asked him if he was coming with them.
(b) They asked him that he was coming with them.
(c) They asked him if he is coming with us.
(d) They told him if he was coming with them.
18. He said, "I have been writing letters since morning." [Ans: (B)]
- (a) He said that he has been writing letters since morning.
(b) He said that he had been writing letters since morning.
(c) He told that he had been writing letters since morning.

- (d) He said he was writing letters since morning.
19. "I have seen this movie already," she said. [Ans: (C)]
- (a) She said that she has seen that movie already.
 - (b) She said that she saw that movie already.
 - (c) She said that she had seen that movie already.
 - (d) She told that she had seen this movie already.
20. He said, "My father died last year." [Ans: (D)]
- (a) He said that his father died last year.
 - (b) He said that his father died the previous year.
 - (c) He said that his father has died the previous year.
 - (d) He said that his father had died the previous year.
21. Rama said, "I am very busy now." [Ans: (B)]
- (a) Rama said that he is very busy now.
 - (b) Rama said that he was very busy then.
 - (c) Rama said that I am very busy then.
 - (d) Rama told that he was very busy then.
22. He said to me, "Wait here until I return." [Ans: (A)]
- (a) He told me to wait there until he returned.
 - (b) He told me to wait here until he returns.
 - (c) He asked me to wait there until I return.
 - (d) He told me wait there until he returned.
23. The teacher said, "Honesty is the best policy." [Ans: (C)]
- (a) The teacher said that honesty was the best policy.
 - (b) The teacher told that honesty is the best policy.
 - (c) The teacher said that honesty is the best policy.
 - (d) The teacher said honesty is the best policy.
24. He asked me, "What are you doing?" [Ans: (B)]
- (a) He asked me what I am doing.
 - (b) He asked me what I was doing.
 - (c) He asked me what was I doing.
 - (d) He told me what I was doing.
25. "Can you solve this sum?" the teacher said to the boy. [Ans: (D)]
- (a) The teacher asked the boy if he can solve this sum.
 - (b) The teacher asked the boy if he could solve this sum.
 - (c) The teacher asked the boy if he can solve that sum.
 - (d) The teacher asked the boy if he could solve that sum.
26. He said, "I had a wonderful dream last night." [Ans: (C)]
- (a) He said that he had a wonderful dream last night.

- (b) He said that he saw a wonderful dream the previous night.
(c) He said that he had had a wonderful dream the previous night.
(d) He told that he had a wonderful dream the previous night.
27. "Don't play on the grass, boys," she said. [Ans: (B)]
(a) She told the boys that they should not play on the grass.
(b) She forbade the boys to play on the grass.
(c) She said the boys not to play on the grass.
(d) She requested the boys don't play on the grass.
28. He said, "Let us go out for a walk." [Ans: (A)]
(a) He suggested that they should go out for a walk.
(b) He proposed to go out for a walk.
(c) He suggested to go out for a walk.
(d) He suggested that we should go out for a walk.
29. She said to him, "Why don't you go today?" [Ans: (C)]
(a) She asked him why he didn't go today.
(b) She asked him why he doesn't go that day.
(c) She asked him why he didn't go that day.
(d) She asked him why didn't he go that day.
30. "How smart you are!" she said. [Ans: (B)]
(a) She exclaimed that he is very smart.
(b) She exclaimed that he was very smart.
(c) She said that he was very smart.
(d) She exclaimed how smart he was.
31. He said, "Be quiet and listen to my words." [Ans: (D)]
(a) He urged them to be quiet and listen to his words.
(b) He said to be quiet and listen to his words.
(c) He told them to be quiet and listen to his words.
(d) He urged them to be quiet and to listen to his words.
32. The captain said, "Bravo! You have done well." [Ans: (B)]
(a) The captain exclaimed that they had done well.
(b) The captain applauded them, saying that they had done well.
(c) The captain said bravo that they had done well.
(d) The captain told them that they did well.
33. He said, "Thank you!" [Ans: (A)]
(a) He thanked me.
(b) He said thank you to me.
(c) He told me thanks.
(d) He thanked.

34. "God save the King!" they shouted. [Ans: (C)]
- (a) They shouted that God might save the King.
 - (b) They shouted to God to save the King.
 - (c) They prayed that God might save the King.
 - (d) They shouted that God save the King.
35. He said, "I must go now." [Ans: (B)]
- (a) He said that he must go now.
 - (b) He said that he had to go then.
 - (c) He said that he must have to go then.
 - (d) He told that he had to go then.
36. She said, "I have been reading for two hours." [Ans: (A)]
- (a) She said that she had been reading for two hours.
 - (b) She said that she has been reading for two hours.
 - (c) She told that she had been reading for two hours.
 - (d) She said she was reading for two hours.
37. "Will you have some more tea?" she said to him. [Ans: (B)]
- (a) She asked him if he will have some more tea.
 - (b) She asked him if he would have some more tea.
 - (c) She told him if he would have some more tea.
 - (d) She asked if he would have more tea.
38. He said, "I shall go as soon as it is possible." [Ans: (C)]
- (a) He said that he shall go as soon as it was possible.
 - (b) He said that he would go as soon as it is possible.
 - (c) He said that he would go as soon as it was possible.
 - (d) He told that he would go as soon as it was possible.
39. "Good morning, father," said Rahul. [Ans: (D)]
- (a) Rahul said good morning to his father.
 - (b) Rahul told his father good morning.
 - (c) Rahul wished his father that it was a good morning.
 - (d) Rahul wished his father good morning.
40. He said to me, "I don't believe you." [Ans: (B)]
- (a) He told me that he doesn't believe me.
 - (b) He told me that he didn't believe me.
 - (c) He said to me that he didn't believe me.
 - (d) He told me that he didn't believe you.
41. "Let's not stay here," he said. [Ans: (C)]
- (a) He suggested that they should not stay here.
 - (b) He said that they should not stay there.

- (c) He suggested that they should not stay there.
(d) He told them not to stay there.
42. She said, "You must work hard." [Ans: (A)]
(a) She advised me to work hard.
(b) She said that I must work hard.
(c) She told me that I must work hard.
(d) She said to work hard.
43. He said, "What a beautiful scene!" [Ans: (B)]
(a) He said that it was a beautiful scene.
(b) He exclaimed that it was a very beautiful scene.
(c) He exclaimed what a beautiful scene it was.
(d) He told that it was a beautiful scene.
44. "Where do you live?" the stranger asked. [Ans: (D)]
(a) The stranger asked where do I live.
(b) The stranger asked where did I live.
(c) The stranger asked where I live.
(d) The stranger asked where I lived.
45. The teacher said to the students, "Work hard if you want to pass." [Ans: (B)]
(a) The teacher told the students to work hard if they want to pass.
(b) The teacher advised the students to work hard if they wanted to pass.
(c) The teacher asked the students to work hard if they wanted to pass.
(d) The teacher advised the students to work hard if you want to pass.
46. She said to me, "I shall play now." [Ans: (C)]
(a) She told me that she shall play then.
(b) She said to me that she would play then.
(c) She told me that she would play then.
(d) She told me that I would play then.
47. He said, "May you live long!" [Ans: (A)]
(a) He wished that I might live long.
(b) He said that I might live long.
(c) He wished that I may live long.
(d) He prayed that I live long.
48. "Don't go near the fire," the mother said to the child. [Ans: (D)]
(a) The mother told the child not to go near the fire.
(b) The mother advised the child not to go near the fire.
(c) The mother said to the child not to go near the fire.
(d) The mother warned the child not to go near the fire.
49. He said, "I have been ill for two days." [Ans: (B)]

- (a) He said that he has been ill for two days.
 (b) He said that he had been ill for two days.
 (c) He told that he had been ill for two days.
 (d) He said he was ill for two days.

50. "I will do it now," he said.

[Ans: (C)]

- (a) He said that he will do it now.
 (b) He said that he would do it now.
 (c) He said that he would do it then.
 (d) He told that he would do it then.

Part III: High-Probability Exam Recap

Direct Word	Indirect Word	Tense (Direct)	Tense (Indirect)
Now	Then	Simple Present	Simple Past
Today	That day	Present Continuous	Past Continuous
Yesterday	The previous day	Simple Past	Past Perfect
Tomorrow	The next day	Present Perfect	Past Perfect
This	That	Can	Could
Here	There	May	Might
Thus	So	Shall/Will	Should/Would
Ago	Before	Must	Had to (or remain Must)