

REPORTING



One day Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson went camping. They put up a tent under the stars. During the night, Holmes woke his companion and said: 'Watson, look up at the sky and tell me what you see.' Watson: 'I can see millions of stars, Holmes.' 'And what do you deduce from that?' Watson pondered for a minute and said: 'If even a few of those stars have planets, it's quite likely there are some planets like Earth out there. And if there are a few planets like Earth out there, there might also be life.' Holmes: 'Watson, you idiot!' he said. 'Our tent has been stolen.'



One day Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson went camping. They put up a tent under the stars. During the night, Holmes woke his companion and told him to look up at the sky and tell him what he saw. Watson replied he could see millions of stars. Then Holmes asked him what he deduced from that. Watson pondered for a minute and said that if even a few of those stars had planets, it was quite likely there were some planets like Earth out there. He added that if there were a few planets like Earth out there, there might also be life. Holmes called him an idiot and informed him that their tent had been stolen.

- The teacher told you to close the door (close the door!)
- The teacher asked you to close the door (could you close the door, please?)

Reporting

ORDERS AND REQUESTS- introducing verbs: order, tell, ask



Look at the blackboard, children!

The teacher ordered the children **to look** at the blackboard



Don't leave your things all over the place, Sue!

Her mother told Sue **not to leave** her things all over the place



Will you take me out for a walk, please?

The dog asked me **to take** him out for a walk



Mum, give me something to eat!

The boy told his mother **to give** him something to eat



Don't close your mouth, Mr. Jones, please.

The dentist asked Mr. Jones **not to close** his mouth

STATEMENTS - introducing verbs: say, tell, explain, think, etc. ...



Sorry, Mr. Jones is
out this morning.

The secretary told me **that** Mr. Jones **was** out **that** morning



I have been promoted.

The clerk told his wife **that** he **had been promoted**



I know the answer

The girl said **that** she **knew** the answer

DIRECT / INDIRECT SPEECH – REPORTED SPEECH

Discorso diretto

Nel discorso diretto vengono citate le parole esatte che sono state dette. La frase al discorso diretto è sempre tra virgolette.

Holmes said: 'Watson, look up at the sky and tell me what you see.'

Discorso indiretto

Nel discorso indiretto si riporta ciò che è stato detto.

Holmes told Watson to look up at the sky and tell him what he saw.

La frase al discorso indiretto è preceduta da un verbo introduttivo come *say* o *tell* e non ha le virgolette.

La congiunzione *that* (che) può introdurre la frase al discorso indiretto, ma non è obbligatoria.

Quando si usa il discorso indiretto, è necessario apportare dei cambiamenti.

Questi alcuni dei più comuni:

Pronomi e aggettivi

Max said, 'I play tennis.'

Max said that he played tennis.

I cambiamenti più frequenti riguardano I pronomi personali soggetto, i pronomi oggetto e gli aggettivi possessivi.

I	>	he/she
My	>	his/her
Me	>	him/her

Espressioni di tempo e di luogo

Direct speech	Reported speech
today, tonight	that day, that night
this morning/week	that morning/week
last week	the week before
tomorrow	the next day, the following day
yesterday	the day before
now	then
this	that
these	those
here	there

Say e tell

Per riferire ciò che qualcuno ha detto si possono usare I verbi *say* e *tell*. Si usa *say* se non si vuole rendere noto a chi si parla. Si usa *tell* se si vuole rendere noto a chi si parla. *Tell* è sempre seguito da un pronome o da un nome. I verbi *say* e *tell* corrispondono al verbo italiano *dire*.

Tempi verbali

Quando il verbo introduttivo è al presente (Mary says...), il tempo non cambia nel discorso indiretto.

Quando il verbo introduttivo è al passato (Mary said...), il tempo cambia dal presente al passato nel discorso indiretto.

Discorso diretto	Discorso indiretto
Max said, 'I like fashion.'	Max said (that) he liked fashion.
Monica said, 'I'm different.'	Monica said (that) she was different.

TENSE	DIRECT SPEECH	TENSE	REPORTED SPEECH
PRESENT SIMPLE	'I work hard.'	PAST SIMPLE	He said that he worked hard.
PRESENT CONTINUOUS	'I am working hard.'	PAST CONTINUOUS	He said that he was working hard.
PAST SIMPLE	'I worked hard yesterday .'	PAST PERFECT	He said that he had worked hard the previous day / the day before .
PRESENT PERFECT	'I have worked hard.'	PAST PERFECT	He said that he had worked hard.
FUTURE SIMPLE	'I will work hard.'	CONDITIONAL	He said that he would work hard.
MODALS	'I can work hard.' 'I may work hard.' 'I must work hard.'		He said that he could work hard. He said that he might work hard. He said that he had to work hard.

1. Complete the sentences with the correct pronouns or possessive adjectives.

- a. **Max** 'I wear expensive shirts.'
a. Max says that _____ wears expensive shirts.
- b. **Phil** 'I haven't got any money.'
a. Phil says _____ hasn't got any money.
- c. **Monica** 'He's my brother.'
a. Monica says he's _____ brother.
- d. **Zara** 'You look really good.'
a. Zara says that _____ looks really good.
- e. **Neil** 'Sandra never speaks to me.'
a. Neil says Sandra never speaks to _____.

2. Report what they say using verbs in the Present Simple.

- a. 'I don't care what I wear.'
She says _____.
- b. 'I hate fashion.'
He says _____.
- c. 'Tracksuits are my favourite clothes.'
He says _____.
- d. 'I have twenty pair of shoes in my wardrobe.'
She says _____.
- e. 'I always do my hair.'
She says _____.
- f. 'I never wear designer clothes.'
He says _____.

3. Write the sentences with the correct punctuation.

- a. I love fashion said Max
- b. I've bought a new dress she said
- c. Monica said she hated wearing pink
- d. The man said that I was well dressed
- e. She said it's very fashionable

4. Complete the sentences with an expression (That night – the next day – the day before – there)

1. Paul 'I wore that yesterday.'
Paul said that he wore that _____.
2. Zak 'The fashion show is tomorrow.'
Zak said that the fashion show was _____.
3. Monica 'I am here.'
Monica said that she was _____.

5. Rewrite the sentences in reported speech.

- a. 'I watch a film on Saturdays.'
Caroline said _____
- b. 'He's my best friend.'
Fed told me _____
- c. 'The scarf is in my bag.'
Janice said _____
- d. 'This film wasn't very interesting.'
Tom told me _____
- e. 'This isn't my school.'
Jerry said _____
- f. 'We'll walk for half an hour'
Yesterday Jennifer told me _____
- g. 'These T-shirts don't fit me.'
Mike said _____
- h. 'We're parking our car here.'
They said _____
- i. 'It's my boyfriend's birthday party tomorrow.'
Helen told me _____
- j. 'I think there will be a students' meeting very soon.'
He said _____
- k. 'It's difficult to finish this project this week.'
The students said _____
- l. 'I'm not busy now.'
Alicia told me _____
- m. 'I don't want these CDs anymore.'
My brother said _____
- n. 'We feel fine now.'
The girls said _____
- o. 'We're going to the shopping today.'
My parents told me _____
- p. 'She had finished her homework when I arrived.'
Mary said _____
- q. 'I often think about my future.'
Marik said _____
- r. 'I go the doctor tomorrow. I am not feeling well'
- s. Helen said _____

6. **CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER**

1. 'Miriam is looking for a job'
2. 'Jennifer will miss the train'
3. 'My dog can run very fast'
4. 'Mary cooks lunch at home'

Rosina said that Miriam was/were looking for a job.
 Lorenzo said that Jennifer would miss/missed the train.
 Alice said that her dog ran /could run very fast
 Steve said that Mary cooked/has cooked lunch at home.

7. **Rewrite the following positive sentences.**

1. "Angela likes fashion magazines."
 She said -----
2. "Charles is a wonderful person."
 She said -----
3. "I'm having a party tomorrow."
 She said -----
4. "These are my favourite books."
 He said -----
5. "We are having a great time."
 She said -----
6. "Peter is driving his new bike."
 She said -----
7. "Susan buys many teen magazines."
 She said -----
8. "Daniel writes every day."
 She said -----

8. **Rewrite the following negative sentences.**

1. "Sally doesn't like horror films."
 Arthur said -----
2. "Mary doesn't go to school on foot."
 She said -----
3. "Rich isn't watching TV."
 She said -----
4. "The fireplace isn't working properly."
 She said -----
5. "John doesn't take a bath every day."
 Martha said -----
6. "He doesn't enjoy being alone."
 She said -----
7. "My cousin Peter doesn't speak Spanish."
 She said -----
8. "They don't understand their parents."
 She said -----

9. Rewrite the following interrogative sentences.

1. "Does Angela like fashion magazines?"
She asked-----
2. "Where is my suitcase?"
She asked-----
3. "Do you enjoy watching TV?"
She asked me -----
4. "Does Rachel wear glasses?"
He wanted to know -----
5. "How do you come to school?"
He wanted to know -----
6. "Can you spell your name?"
She asked me -----
7. "Where is the calendar?"
He wanted to know -----
8. "Is this your mobile phone?"
He asked me -----

10. Rewrite the following sentences (mixed forms).

1. "Andrew is a great fan of Keane."
She said -----
2. "Charles isn't sleeping now."
She said -----
3. "Paula is a very happy person."
She said -----
4. "Why do you want to work there?"
He wanted to know -----
5. "This isn't my favourite food."
He said -----
6. "What time is it?"
He asked me -----
7. "I don't want to go abroad."
He said -----
8. "She has a beautiful smile."
She said -----

11. REWRITE THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES INTO DIRECT SPEECH.

1. Mary asked me where exactly I lived.
2. Bill said he was going to be late.
3. David said he had to be back by 3.30.
4. Carol asked Ann what she had done the day before.
5. Kate asked me how many books I had read.
6. My teacher asked me if I would go to school the following day.
7. Helen said she was going shopping.
8. Paul said that he wanted to make a phone call.
9. Tina told the teacher she had forgotten to do her homework.
10. She said she liked swimming but she didn't go very often.
11. He said he had written two letters to her.
12. I asked my teacher what 'coy' meant.
13. I asked Sue when her birthday was.
14. My mother asked me if I had tidied my room lately.
15. She asked John to give her a lift to the airport.
16. She wondered if he would ask her out.
17. She said she had been to the doctor's two days before.
18. She asked me who I had invited to my party.
19. He wanted to know what had happened.
20. He explained that he had been late because of the traffic.
21. She asked Jim if he had tried those cakes.
22. He said that he would help me whenever I needed it
23. She said she had to do an important exam the following day.
24. The firemen told us to leave the place at once.
25. I told Peter to be honest.
26. She told us we had to call her Mrs. Willis
27. They asked me not to come in with my shoes on.
28. She said her friend had just had a baby.
29. The policeman ordered him to come out of his car.
30. He said that they had finished this exercise at last.

12. REWRITE THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES INTO REPORTED SPEECH.

1. 'Julia hates getting up early' said Margaret.
2. 'I don't know your address' said George.
3. 'Patricia is tidying her bedroom' said Julieta.
4. 'This soup is too cold' said Daniel.
5. 'Martha has fallen from this tree' Louis said.
6. 'Our mother is driving the car now' Anne said.

13. REWRITE THE SENTENCES INTO REPORTED SPEECH

- 1.-'My father bought a horse yesterday' Robert said.
- 2.-'The baby is sleeping in the bedroom now' Maggie said.
- 3.-'I lost my mobile phone last Tuesday' Anne said.
- 4.-'You didn't pass the exam' The teacher told me.
- 5.-'We must meet at the bus station' Raphael told Sonia.
- 6.-'I haven't finish my lunch yet' James said.
- 7.-'My sister goes to the gym twice a week' John said.
- 8.-'George has won the competition' Alain said.
- 9.-'She hates eating in McDonalds' Valerie said.
- 10.-'My uncle is living in New York' Samuel said.
- 11.-'I want to be a firefighter' Oscar said.
- 12.-'My friend left the party at 11,30pm' Therese said.
- 13.- 'We are going to the National Theatre next Saturday' said Paul and Simon.