


Reported speech

REPORTED SPEECH

Use		It is used when relating words said previously, in other places and by other people. This implies changes in different components of the sentence to maintain the same perspective on what was originally said. These elements are susceptible to change according to who, when and where the original speech relates to:		
Form	Variations		Direct speech	Reported speech
		Personal pronouns, subject and object		> "I'll call you again soon."
	Possessives, adjectives and pronouns		> "I'll paste my report with yours ."	> Joe said he'd paste his report with mine .
	Demonstratives	<i>this</i> → <i>that</i> <i>these</i> → <i>those</i>	> "These cars are going to be sold at the end of this month."	> The manager said that those cars were going to be sold at the end of that month.
	References to time	<i>now</i> → <i>then</i> , <i>today</i> → <i>that day</i> , <i>yesterday/last week</i> → <i>the day/week before</i> or <i>the previous day/week</i> <i>tomorrow/next year</i> → <i>the day/year after</i> or <i>the following day/year</i>	> "It's high time we decided on what our policy will be from today , up to next year ." > "Now, we'll simply drill the holes, tomorrow we'll check assembly the workpieces."	> The manager said it was high time we decided what our policy would be from that day up to the following year . > Mark said that then , we would simply drill the holes, but the day after we would assembly the workpiece.
	References to place	<i>here</i> → <i>there</i>	> "The headquarters will be here ."	> The Company manager said that the headquarters would be there .
	Tenses (if introductory verb is in the past tense)	<i>Present simple</i> → <i>Past simple</i> <i>Present cont.</i> → <i>Past cont.</i> <i>Past simple</i> → <i>Past perfect</i> <i>Past cont.</i> → = <i>Present perf.</i> → <i>Past perfect</i> <i>Past perf.</i> → = <i>Future simple</i> → <i>Cond. Simple</i> <i>Imperative</i> → <i>Infinitive</i> <i>1st type cond.</i> → <i>2nd type cond.</i> <i>2nd/3rd type cond.</i> → =	> "I'm in the office, I'm finishing typing, boss." > "While I was checking the sensor, I noticed a disconnected wire." > "I've updated the list." > "Yes, I'll come ." > "Mary, come here!" > "If we use carbon fibres, helmets will be stronger and lighter."	> She told her boss she was in the office and she was finishing typing. > Jo said that while he was checking the sensor he had noticed a disconnected wire. > Caroline said she had updated the list. > Joe said he would come . > The boss told Mary to go there. > He was sure that if we used carbon fibres, helmets would be stronger and lighter.
Questions		There is no longer an inversion.	> "Have you met Mr Miller?" > "Where was the conference held?"	> Susan asked me if / whether I had met Mr Miller. > Harris asked where the conference had been held.
Introductory verbs		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ say + (to + obj.) + (that) + ... ■ tell + obj. + (that) + ... ■ ask + (obj.) + <i>if/whether/wh-word</i> + ... 	> John to Mark: "I'm off. Are you coming? How are you getting back home?"	> John said (to Mark)/told Mark (that) he was off and asked him if he was going and how he was getting back home.
		Other verbs can be used to report a speech while giving more information about the intention of the speaker. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ warn, advise, persuade, order, encourage, remind + object + to inf. ■ offer, promise, refuse + to inf. ■ deny, admit, apologise for + ing form 	> Paul to Mary: "You'd better accept!" > "Yes, I'll recruit a new mechanic." > "I'm sorry I've kept you waiting so long, Mrs Lynette."	> Paul advised Mary to accept. > He promised to recruit a new mechanic. > Darren apologised for keeping Mrs Lynette for so long.

41 Report these sentences using the prompts.

- John to the manager: "I worked for BMW in Atlanta up to last year, then I moved here and I'm currently looking for a new position." John...
- The mechanic: "I've just told Mr Brown that there is a problem with the cylinder. What can I do if he decides not to repair it?" The mechanic...
- Jim: "The costs of this raw material are too high for our department, we are going to ask another supplier for a new quote." Jim...
- Mr Brown to Anna: "Do not answer this email yet. I want to discuss with the engineer first. Call him, please." Mr Brown...
- Mr Tomson to Kim: "I need to go to New York next week. Book me a flight, and don't forget to call the person in charge of Ford Industry." Mr Tomson...
- Mr Williamson: "I'm calling from Sydney, but I'm flying to Madrid next Saturday. I'm going to meet all my representatives there." Mr Williamson...

42 Match and complete the sentences.

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|---|--------------------------|---|
| 1. "Remember to check the fuel injection system." | <input type="checkbox"/> | a. He denied the fuel injection system. |
| 2. "I'm not going to check the fuel injection system, forget about it!" | <input type="checkbox"/> | b. He advised Jim the fuel injection system. |
| 3. "No, I haven't checked the fuel injection system." | <input type="checkbox"/> | c. He promised the fuel injection system. |
| 4. "Yes, it was me who checked the fuel injection system." | <input type="checkbox"/> | d. He refused the fuel injection system. |
| 5. "Yes, don't worry, I'll check the fuel injection system for you." | <input type="checkbox"/> | e. He reminded Jim the fuel injection system. |
| 6. "Shall I check the fuel injection system for you?" | <input type="checkbox"/> | f. He offered the fuel injection system. |
| 7. "Check the fuel injection system by tonight!" | <input type="checkbox"/> | g. He admitted the fuel injection system. |
| 8. "I think you should check the fuel injection system." | <input type="checkbox"/> | h. He ordered Jim the fuel injection system. |

43 Choose the correct direct sentence corresponding to these reported ones.

- They asked Luke if he was going to attend the "sustainable development" conference the day after.
 - "Are you going to attend the sustainable development conference tomorrow?"
 - "Were you going to attend the sustainable development conference the following day?"
 - "If you are going to attend the sustainable development conference the previous day?"
- Mr Holly reminded all the workers to respect the plant safety regulations.
 - "Mr Holly reminded respecting the plant safety regulations."
 - "You have to remind and respect the plant safety regulations."
 - "Remember to respect the plant safety regulations."
- They asked people to change their daily habits if they wanted to help the planet.
 - "When are you going to change your daily habits and help the planet?"
 - "Change your daily habits if you want to help the planet, please!"
 - "How can you change your daily habits to help the planet?"
- He admitted discharging wastewater into the river regularly.
 - "I admit I want to discharge wastewater into the river regularly."
 - "Yes, I'd like to discharge wastewater into the river with a certain frequency."
 - "Yes, I regularly discharge wastewater into the river."
- The chief engineer said he had liked holding the meeting there the previous week.
 - "Well, I liked we held the meeting here last week."
 - "Yes, I've liked they hold the meeting there last week."
 - "I liked holding the meeting here the week before."