

# REPORTED SPEECH

# SAY & TELL

## **REMEMBER!!!**

to say smth to smb

to tell smb smth

## **EXPRESSIONS**

- say good morning, etc; say something / nothing, say a few words, say so, etc.
- to tell the truth, tell a lie, tell smb one's name, tell a story, tell a secret, tell one from another.

- **Time words** can change or remain the same depending on the time reference.

### Direct Speech

### Reported Speech

tonight, today, this week/month/year

⇒

that night, that day, that week/month/year

now

⇒

then, at that time, at once, immediately

now that

⇒

since

yesterday, last night/week/month year

⇒

the day before, the previous night/week/month/year

tomorrow, next week/month/year

⇒

the following day/the day after, the following/next week/month/year

two days/months/years etc ago

⇒

two days/months/years etc before

"I'm sitting an exam **tomorrow**," he said. ⇒ He said he was sitting an exam **the next/following day**. (out-of-date reporting)  
 "I'm sitting an exam **tomorrow**," he said. ⇒ He said he **is sitting** an exam **tomorrow**. (up-to-date reporting)

- If the direct verb is already in the past simple, in reported speech it can change into the past perfect or remain the same.

"I **was** late for school," Jane said.

Jane said she **was** / **had been** late for school.

- If the direct verb is in the past perfect, it remains the same in reported speech.

"I **had** already **written** to him," Rob said.

Rob said he **had** already **written** to him.

- Certain words change as follows depending on the context.

Direct speech: **this / these here come** (in his office) He said, "I'll be **here** again on Monday."

Reported speech: **that / those there go** (outside the office) He said he'd be **there** again on Monday.

# NO CHANGES

## 1) 'say/says'

# 'I am busy,' Tom says. Tom says that he is busy.

### *Compare:*

1) 'I am busy,' Tom said. Tom said that he was busy. So I decided to call him later.

2) 'I am busy,' Tom said. Tom said that he is busy. Let's wait a bit, he will soon be free.

# NO CHANGES

## 2) general truth, permanent states or conditions

1) 'The sun rises in the east,' the teacher said. The teacher said that the sun rises in the east.

2) 'The capital of Spain is Madrid,' the teacher said. The teacher said that the capital of Spain is Madrid. I didn't know that.

### Compare:

'The capital of Spain is Barcelona,' Mike said.

Mike said that the capital of Spain was Barcelona and that's why he made the teacher angry.

# NO CHANGES

**3) the speaker is reporting something immediately after it was said.**

**# 'The dinner is ready,' mother said.**

Dad, mom said (that) the dinner is ready.  
(up-to-date information)

or

Dad, mom said (that) the dinner was ready.

***Compare:***

Mom said the dinner was ready and we went to the dining room.

# NO CHANGES

**3) conditionals type 2,3, mixed or wishes.**

**# 'If I were you, I would buy a silk blouse' Jane said.**

Jane said that if she were me, she would buy a silk blouse.

**# 'I wish I hadn't spent so much money' Jane said.**

Jane said that she wished she hadn't spent so much money.

# INTRODUCTORY WORDS / VERBS

## 1) STATEMENTS = that

# John said, 'My brother is learning to drive.'

John said that his brother was learning to drive.

## 2) GENERAL / TAG/ ALTERNATIVE QUESTIONS

# 'Are you tired?' John asked.

John asked us / me / them if / whether I was / we were tired.

# 'Your dad is doctor, isn't he?' John asked.

John wanted to know if my dad was a doctor.

# INTRODUCTORY WORDS / VERBS

## 3) SPECIAL QUESTIONS

# - 'What is the capital of Germany?' John asked.  
– 'It's Berlin,' his mom replied. [b3:'lIn]

John asked his mom **what** the capital of Germany is / was. His mom answered that it is Berlin.

## 4) COMMANDS & REQUESTS

# John said to Peter, ' (Don't) Shut the door, please!'

John asked Peter (not) to shut the door.