

Grammar Study:

Reported Speech



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We use the Reported speech:

- When we are telling someone what another person said or thought, but do not use their exact words.

For example

Mark **said that he wanted** to live in London.



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Please, note that:

- Quotation marks are not used in reported speech.
- Verb tenses, pronouns and some "time" and "place" words may change because the time, place and speaker may be different.
- When we report a statement, we use reported verbs such as say, tell, explain, inform, answer, decide, etc. often followed by that.



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- In reported -wh questions, we use the wh- word + the subject + the verb.

- We do not use the interrogative form of the verb - do does or did.

As it is an indirect question no question marks are used

- When we report requests, orders, advice or warnings we use verbs such as advice, ask, beg, tell, order, etc, followed by an infinitive.



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Verb tense changes:

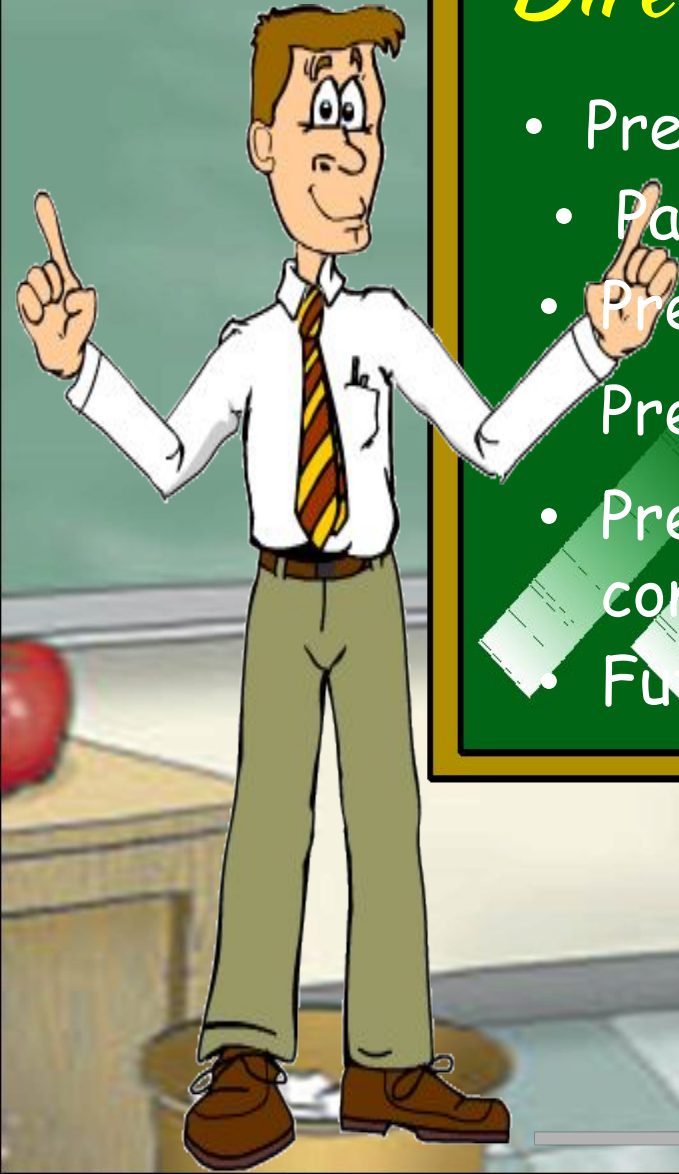
Direct speech

Reported speech

- Present simple → • Past simple
- Past Simple → • Past Perfect
- Present continuous → • Past continuous
- Present perfect → • Past perfect
- Present perfect continuous → • Past perfect continuous
- Future → • Conditional

Nex

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Place changes

Direct speech

here

This place

Reported speech

→ there

→ • That place

Nex

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Time changes

Direct speech

- now
- Today / tonight
- This morning
- Yesterday
- Tomorrow
- Last month

Reported speech

- • then
- • That day / that night
- • That morning
- • The day before
- • The following day
- • The month before



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Personal Pronouns changes

Direct speech

- I
- you
- we
- he
- You
- Us

Reported speech

- • He, she
- • I, she, he, we, they
- • they
- Him, her
- • Him, her, us, them
- • them

Nex

t

Possessive Pronouns changes

Direct speech

my

your

our

mine

yours

ours



Reported speech

- His, her

- My, his, her, our, their

- their

His, hers

- Mine, his, hers, ours, theirs

Mine, his, hers,
ours, theirs,

