

Reported Speech

■ Quoting – quotation

“I suppose you have heard the latest news”, she said.

■ Reporting someone’s actual words

(use reporting verbs say, reply, suggest...)

■ report statements, questions, requests, thoughts

(add, admit, advise, agree, announce, answer, ask, beg, claim, demand, explain, insist, order, persuade, promise, remind, reply,...)

She reminded us to bring some money.



Reported Speech

- **Thoughts**

- reporting people's thoughts

(use reporting verbs assume, believe, consider, contemplate, imagine, infer, reflect, suppose, think, wonder...)

Reported Speech

■ Statements

Reporting someone's words by using a noun clause beginning with **THAT**

He admits that he can't help us.

Reporting clause

Reported clause

She explained (that) she couldn't take the job.

Reported Speech

■ Negatives in reporting

-what smb. did not say/think-make the reporting verb negative:

He didn't tell me how he would get to London.

- Report a negative sentence-reported clause:

You are right, it is not a good idea.

He agreed that it was not a good idea.

!! I am sure it is not dangerous.

She did not think it was dangerous.



Reported Speech

Reporting statements

THAT clause in the reported clause

He said (that) he was enjoying his work.

Some reporting verbs have OBJECT + to infinitive

*I felt that the results **were** satisfactory.*

*I felt the results **to be** satisfactory.*



Reported Speech

Reporting statements TENSE

Past tense in the reporting clause : we can use either a present or past tense in the reported clause (present will emphasize that the situation being reported still exists or is still relevant when we report it):

He said that he is /was living in Oslo.

Reported Speech

Reporting statements TENSE

-when reporting verb in past the tense in reported clauses changes:

PRESENT → PAST

PAST → PAST PERFECT

WILL/SHALL → WOULD/SHOULD

...

Reported Speech

Reporting statements TENSE

say/tell

We use an OBJECT after TELL, but not after SAY

*He told **me** that...*

She said that...

*!! **to + object** after say, but not after tell:*

I said to John that he had to work harder.

Reported Speech

Other changes:

direct speech

here

ago

before

last week

next week

now

this

these

today

tomorrow

yesterday

reported speech

there

before

earlier

the week before

the following week

then/that day/at the moment

that

those

that day

the next/ the following day

the day before/the previous day



Reported Speech

QUESTIONS

Wh- questions

She asked me: “What is the problem?”

She asked me WHAT the problem was.

!! WORD ORDER CHANGE!! —————>

Verbal (Yes/No) questions

She asked me: “Have you seen Tom?”

She asked me IF / WHETHER I had seen Tom.

Reported Speech

Reporting offers, orders, suggestions:

TO + INFINITIVE clause after the reporting clause

She advised him: “Close the case!”

*She advised him **to close** the case.*

She reminded her: “Do not forget to bring the evidence!”

*She reminded her **NOT to forget** to bring the evidence.*