

# Reported speech

We use reported speech when we want to tell someone what someone said

**Example:** Direct speech: "I travel a lot in my job"  
Reported speech: He said that he travelled a lot in his job

Direct speech	Reported speech
Present simple	Past simple
Present continuous	Past continuous
Past simple	Past perfect
Present perfect	Past perfect
Past continuous	Past perfect continuous
"will" future	would conditional
Can	could
May	Might
Must	Had to



## Tense

## Direct Speech

present simple

I like ice cream

Present continuous

I am living in London

past simple

I bought a car

past continuous

I was walking along the street

Present perfect

I haven't seen Julie

past perfect

I had taken English lessons before

will

I'll see you later

would

I would help, but...

can

I can speak perfect English

could

I could swim when I was four

shall

I shall come later

## Reported Speech

she said (that) she liked ice cream

she said (that) she was living in London

she said (that) she had bought a car OR she said (that) she bought a car

she said (that) she had been walking along the street

she said (that) she hadn't seen Julie

she said (that) she had taken English lessons before

she said (that) she would see me later

she said (that) she would help but...

she said (that) she could speak perfect English

she said (that) she could swim when she was four

she said (that) she would come later



Might

I might be late

She said (that) she might be late

must

I must study at the weekend

she said (that) she must study at the weekend

## EXAMPLES

He plays the piano → He said that he played the piano

They are happy tonight → They said they were happy that night

Julie said I'm leaving today → Julie said she was leaving that day

We are going to swim tomorrow → He said they were going to swim the next day

Biana said: I like these necklaces → she said that she liked those necklaces