

Reported Speech

We use reported speech when we want to tell someone with someone said. We usually use a reporting verb and then change the tense of what was actually said in direct speech.

Direct speech

Present simple
Present continuous
Past simple
Present perfect
Past continuous
Will future
Can
May
Must

Reported speech

Past simple
Past continuous
Past perfect
Past perfect continuous
Would conditional
Could
Might
Had to

Reporting verb in
present perfect
Simple future

It doesn't change

He plays the piano : he played the piano

He is playing the piano : he was playing the piano

He has played the piano : he had played the piano

He has been playing : the piano he had been playing the piano

He played the piano : he had played the piano

Tense

Direct speech

Present simple

I like ice cream

Present continuous

I am learning

Past simple

I bought a car

Past continuous

I was walking a dog

Present perfect

I haven't seen Julie

Past Perfect

I had taken English before

Would

I would help but

Can

I can speak English perfectly

Could

I could swim when I was

Shall

I shall come later

Should

I should call my mother

Will

I'll see you later

Might
Must

I might be late
I must study at the
wednesday

She said that she...

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
- 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 help but
- She said (that) she could speak perfect English
- She said (that) she could swim when she was four
- She said (that) she should come later
- She said (that) she should call my mother
- She said (that) she would see you later
- She said (that) she must study at the weekend or she said she had to stay at the weekend

Examples

- I would help but
- I hadn't seen Julie
- I might be late
- I should call my mother
- I was walking a long way

Activity

Tag Question

1. They go to school in Warsaw don't they?
2. She believes in ghosts has she? X doesn't she
3. Chris play the piano don't he? X doesn't he
4. Jack and Sarah often visit their grandparents don't they?
5. You don't smoke cigarettes do you?
6. She doesn't do her homework regularly does she?
7. Sheila went to the theatre last week went she? X didn't
8. My parents ordered seafood in the hotel bar last year didn't they?
9. I learnt a lot in primary school didn't I?
10. Jack and Mary got married last month doesn't they? X didn't
11. John was speaking English on the phone wasn't he?
12. There is a great cinema in your town isn't there?
13. There were a lot of people at the party weren't there?
14. I am having a great time aren't I? am not

15. She isn't playing tennis now is she?

16. Katy was cooking when you arrived wasn't she?

17. I wasn't reading when the lights went out was I?

18. Mary and John were walking when it started to rain weren't they?

19. Jack had visited her before hadn't he?

20. Let's play the computer don't you? X they

21. Let me explain it to you doesn't you? X don't they

22. I am listening to you aren't I?