

Using Reported Speech (☆☆)

Changing Direct Speech to Reported Speech

1. 1st person changes to 3rd, e.g. **I** changes to **he** or **she**
2. Present tense changes to past, e.g. **are** changes to **were**
3. Past tense changes to a 'had' tense (past perfect), e.g. **went** changes to **had gone**
4. Future tense changes to 'would' e.g. **will make** changes to **would make**
5. Sometimes direct speech will be shorter; sometimes reported speech will be shorter.
6. Sometimes you need to add 'feeling' words, e.g. **Wow!** becomes **He expressed surprise.**

1) Decide whether these examples are direct or reported speech and add the correct punctuation in each case. Remember that direct speech is the actual words said, but reported speech is not.

- a) I love to go fishing remarked Bob
- b) Joe said that he felt ill
- c) The Inspector told us he was investigating the case
- d) We want to go out right now shouted Layla
- e) Mr Bates frowned and then said I just can't remember any more

2) Read the example, then use it to help you to turn the other sentences into reported speech.

Example: *"I need some money," said Dad.*

Dad said that he needed some money.

- a) "I want to help," whined Mandy.
- b) Mr Larkin said, "I hope to see all you children at the school fair on Saturday."
- c) Miss Green said, "We are writing poems today."
- d) "It's raining again," sighed Ranjit.
- e) The reporter continued, "Police hope to arrest a man soon."

3) This section contains feelings and / or chatty (informal) language. Find the best way to express both formally. There may be different ways of doing this. Read the example first.

Example *"Ugh! Spiders!" screamed Alfie.*

Alfie screamed that he hated spiders.

- a) "We're very concerned about these tatty old houses," said the councillor.
- b) "No way!" laughed Betty. "You don't mean Harkan's scored a goal!"
- c) "I'm astonished! In Year 6 you should know better than this!" exclaimed the Head.
- d) "We're at this well cool party," said Adam down the phone.
- e) "No! You're bang out of order! Put that back!" screamed her sister.