

REPORTED SPEECH

Reported speech, or indirect style, is used to tell what someone has said without using the exact words spoken by that person.

Tense Changes in Reported Speech			
Tense	Tense Change	Direct Speech	Reported Speech
Present simple	Past simple	She always wears a coat.	He said that she always wore a coat. 
Present continuous	Past continuous	I'm looking for my keys.	He said that he was looking for his keys. 
Past simple	Past perfect	My friend gave me a bar of chocolate.	He said that his friend had given him a bar of chocolate. 
Past continuous	Past perfect continuous	We were living in London.	They said that they had been living in London. 
Present perfect	Past perfect	She has written three letters for her friend.	She said that she had written three letters for her friend. 
Past perfect	Past perfect	The bread had gone stale.	She said the bread had gone stale. 
Past perfect continuous	Past perfect continuous	He had been teaching in my school for 15 years.	They said that he had been teaching in their school for 15 years. 
Will	Would	I will finish my report in two days.	He said that he would finish his report in two days. 
Would	Would	He would work in the garden.	They said that he would work in the garden. 
Can	Could	I can speak English.	She said she could speak English. 
Could	Could	He could play in the match.	They said he could play in the match. 
Shall	Would	I shall obey the rules.	She said she would obey the rules. 
Should	Should	I should start a job.	She said that she should start a job. 
May	Might	I may invite them to the dinner.	She said that she might invite them to the dinner. 
Might	Might	He might get a flight tomorrow.	She said he might get a flight the next day. 
Must	Must/had to	I must go to the bank and get some money.	She said she must/had to go to the bank and get some money. 
Have to	Had to	I have to submit this assignment by 3pm tomorrow.	She said she had to submit this assignment by 3pm tomorrow. 

Listening activity: You are going to listen to an audio in direct speech and you have to choose the correct reported speech.

1. The Covid-19 started in 2020, the university spokesmen said to the students, “the university face to face activities are no longer possible because of Covid-19”

- a. He said that the university face to face activities were no longer possible because of Covid-19.
- b. He said that the university face to face activities will no longer possible because of Covid-19.
- c. He said that the university face to face activities are no possible because of Covid-19.

2. Fernanda has stayed at home since the pandemic started

- a. Fernanda says that she stayed home since the pandemic started.
- b. Fernanda said that she had stayed at home since the pandemic had started.
- c. Fernanda says that she has stayed home since the pandemic started.

3. Ecuadorian President said that “Due to the pandemic, Ecuadorians are studying on virtual mode”

- a. Ecuadorian President said that due to the pandemic, Ecuadorians will be studying in virtual mode.
- b. Ecuadorian President said that due to the pandemic, Ecuadorians have been studying in virtual mode.
- c. Ecuadorian President said that due to the pandemic, Ecuadorians were studying on virtual mode.

4. We know everyone can get Covid-19.

- a. We said that we had known that everyone could get Covid-19.
- b. We said that we knew everyone could get Covid-19.
- c. We said that we have known that everyone can get covid-19.

5. Fernanda knows the teachers were panicking to be vaccinated for Covid-19.

- a. Fernanda said that she knew the teachers had panicked about being vaccinated for Covid-19.
- b. Fernanda said that she knows the teachers panicked about being vaccinated for Covid-19.
- c. Fernanda said that she has known teachers have panicked about being vaccinated for Covid-19.