Reported speech (1 – changes in reference words)

We use reported speech to tell others what someone said.

To do this, we use **reporting verbs**, depending on sentences:

- statements: say, tell, explain, announce, add, promise, complain…
- questions: ask, wonder, enquire, want to know…
- orders: tell, instruct, warn, remind, order…
- requests: ask, beg…
- offers & suggestions: offer, suggest, propose, advise, recommend…

We must **adapt the reported sentence** to the new situation:

1. Change pronouns (to refer to correct people and things).
2. Change the verb (change tense/modals and adapt to new subject).
3. Change place and time references.

CHANGE PRONOUNS & OTHER REFERENCES

(always **USE LOGIC**):

I	He / She
Me	Him / Her
You	I / We / Me / Us
We	We / They
Us	Them
Now	Then
Here	There
This	That
These	Those
Today	That day
Tonight	That night
Tomorrow	The day after
Yesterday	The day before
Next week	The week after
Last week	The week before
Ago	Before

Complete using the correct time reference:

1. 'We will go tomorrow,' we said.
   We said that we would go _____
2. He said, 'I can't do it today.'
   He said that he couldn't do it _____
3. 'I must work now,' she said.
   She said that she had to work _____
4. I said, 'I'll finish it next month.'
   I said that I'd finish it _____
5. We said, 'We did homework yesterday.'
   We said that we had done homework _____

Complete the sentences with the correct words:

1. 'These are my car keys,' said Annie.
   Annie said that _____ were _____ car keys.
2. 'I am reading your story now,' the teacher said to Richard.
   The teacher said to Richard that _____ was reading _____ story _____.
3. 'You can see this video tomorrow,' I said.
   I said that _____ could see _____ video _____.
4. You said, 'I will clean this mess tonight.'
   You said that _____ would clean _____ mess _____.
5. 'I'll help you with your new game,' he said to Albert.
   He said that _____ would help _____ with _____ new game.
6. He said to her, 'I love it here with you.'
   He said to her that _____ loved it _____ with _____.
7. 'My mother made this cake yesterday,' Juan told us.
   Juan told us that _____ mother had made _____ cake _____.
8. 'I first met my friend here, in Madrid,' she said.
   She said that _____ had first met _____ friend _____, in Madrid.