

Reported speech

1 ★ Choose the correct forms to complete the sentences.

- 1 'We'll be late!'

Tom told us that they *will / would* be late.
- 2 'I've finished my book.'

She told me that she *had / has* finished her book.
- 3 'We're having a lot of fun!'

They said that they *are / were* having a lot of fun.
- 4 'Ssh. The play is starting!'

He said that the play *is / was* starting.
- 5 'You can't leave in the middle of the play.'

My mum told me I *couldn't / can't* leave in the middle of the play.
- 6 'We always watch the news together in the evening.'

Jed said that they always *watched / watch* the news together in the evening.

2 ★★ Read a speaker's words and complete the text with one word or contraction in each gap.

'Sorry, I don't want to go to the concert. I've got lots of exams soon and the tickets are very expensive. I don't even like the band. I haven't listened to any of their music since their first CD. Anyway, I'm trying to save up for the summer holidays.'

Matt said that he ¹*didn't* want to go to the concert. He told us that he ²_____ lots of exams soon and that the tickets ³_____ very expensive. He then said that he ⁴_____ even like the band and that he ⁵_____ listened to any of their music since their first CD. Finally, he told us that he ⁶_____ trying to save up for the summer holidays.

3 ★★ Complete the reported sentences with the words from the box. There are three extra words.

after before couldn't had(x2) hadn't have he his my she their ~~they~~ was wouldn't

- 1 'We ate fish yesterday.'

The girls said that they _____ eaten fish the day _____.
- 2 'I'm watching the news.'

Beth told me that _____ watching the news.
- 3 'I've had some problems with my back.'

Paul told us that _____ had some problems with _____ back.
- 4 'I can't afford to eat out tomorrow.'

Kyle said that he _____ afford to eat out the day _____.
- 5 'Wow! We haven't heard a better concert in our town.'

The students said that they _____ heard a better concert in _____ town.

4 ★★★ Rewrite the sentences in reported speech.

- 1 'I'm not keen on modern art.'

Cath said that she wasn't keen on modern art.
- 2 'I didn't go out at all yesterday.'

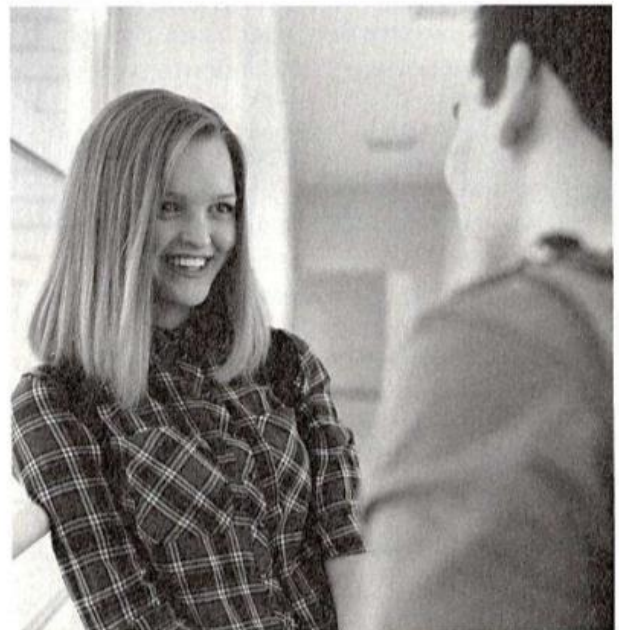
Eric told us that _____.
- 3 'I haven't seen the film yet.'

Samantha said that _____.
- 4 'We'll be back tomorrow.'

Carly said that _____.
- 5 'We're having a meeting.'

Jackson told us that _____.

5 ★★★ Read the conversation and rewrite it in reported speech.



- Adrian** Hi, Emily. Real Madrid are playing Barcelona. I'll help you with your homework when it finishes.
- Emily** That's OK. I love Spanish football. I saw Girona play last year.
- Adrian** Really? Wow. I often go to watch our local team play, but I've never seen a big match.
- Emily** My dad's a Chelsea fan. I can get you tickets if you want.
- Adrian** Wow! Yes, please.

Emily went to Adrian's house because she needed help with her homework. When she arrived, Adrian said 'Hi' and told her that ¹Real Madrid were playing Barcelona and that ²_____ when the match finished. Emily didn't mind. She told him that ³_____ and that ⁴_____ before.

Adrian was surprised. He said that ⁵_____, but that ⁶_____. Emily told him that ⁷_____ and that ⁸_____ if he wanted. Adrian was very happy.

6 ON A HIGH NOTE Think of five things people have told you and write them in reported speech.