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In which of the following sentences do the tenses not change? Why? Then, turn the following statements from direct into reported speech.

1 'I'll paint the house next week,' he says.

Tenses do not change because the introductory verb is in the present simple. He says (that) he will paint the house.

2 'I've put the washing in the washing-machine,' Rose said.

3 'A giraffe is bigger than a mouse,' he said.

4 'We haven't seen Tom for two weeks,' she said.

5 'I haven't phoned my uncle since last month,' she says.

6 'Birds can fly,' the student said.

7 'He's studying for an exam now,' she said.

8 'Leaves fall from the trees in autumn,' he said.

9 'We visited the circus last weekend,' they said.

10 'She dropped the vase on the floor,' Tony said.

11 'He took the money to the bank this morning,' she said.

12 'The Earth moves round the sun,' the teacher said.

- ◆ We introduce reported questions with **ask** or **want to know**.

In reported questions, the verb is in the affirmative and the question mark is omitted. Verb tenses, pronouns and time expressions change as in statements.

e.g. *'Are you working tomorrow morning?' Paul asked her.*

Paul asked her if she was working the next morning.

- ◆ When the direct question begins with a **question word** (who, where, how, when, why, what, etc.), then the reported question begins with the same question word.

e.g. *'Why are you late?' Mother asked me.*

Mother asked me why I was late.

- ◆ When the direct question begins with an **auxiliary** (is, do, have, etc.) or a **modal verb** (can, may, etc.), then the reported question begins with **if** or **whether**.

e.g. *'Can you speak French?' they asked me.*

They asked me if/whether I could speak French.

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Turn the questions from *direct* into *reported speech*.

- 1 'How old are you?' he asked me.
He asked me how old I was.
- 2 'When will you call me?' she asked George.
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- 3 She asked, 'Can you play the piano?'
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- 4 He asked, 'Who's there?'
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- 5 'Do you like fish?' she asked Jonathan.
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- 6 'What have you done today?' Mother asked.
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- 7 Jim asked, 'Did you go to work yesterday?'
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- 8 'How did you get here?' he asked.
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- 9 'Have you seen my blue jacket anywhere?' she asked.
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- 10 He asked, 'Will you take me to work tomorrow?'
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- 11 She asked, 'Where have you been?'
.....
- 12 She asked, 'Will they visit us in the summer?'
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