

DAY 39: REPORTED SPEECH REVIEW 1.2

EXERCISE 21 Change these exact questions to reported questions. Follow the rule of sequence of tenses. In some cases, it's not necessary to follow the rule of sequence of tenses.

1. Did you see the September 11 episode on *Sesame Street*?

She asked me if (or whether) I had seen the September 11 episode.

2. How much TV do your kids watch?

She asked me _____

3. Do they like *Sesame Street*?

She wanted to know _____

4. Why is this show so popular?

At first I didn't understand _____

5. Have you ever seen the show?

I asked my brother _____

6. How long has *Sesame Street* been on TV?

I wanted to know _____

7. Do you like Big Bird?

I asked my sister _____

8. Is Jim Henson still alive?

He asked me _____

9. How does *Sesame Street* handle scary situations?

We wanted to know _____

10. Has *Sesame Street* made any changes in the past 50 years?

He asked me _____

11. Will the Muppets hold kids' attention?

Cooney wanted to know _____

12. Was *Sesame Street* the first educational TV program for kids?

I asked my teacher _____

13. How long will *Sesame Street* last?

They had no idea _____

EXERCISE 22 Choose the correct option to complete this essay. In some cases, both choices are possible, so circle both options.

When I was 18 years old and living in my native Estonia, I didn't know where (I wanted/did I want) to go in my life. I couldn't decide (I should/if I should) get a job or go to college. I didn't even know what I (want/wanted) to study. Then I read an article about an *au pair* program in the U.S. This is a program where young people go to live with a family for a year to take care of their small children.

I became very excited and asked my mother (if I could/could I) apply. At first she said, "Absolutely not." She asked me why (did I want/I wanted) to leave our family for a year. I told her that it (will/would) be a good opportunity for me to improve my English and gain experience. My mother said she would talk it over with Dad, and they finally agreed to let me go.

After filling out the application, I had an interview. The interviewer asked me what kind of experience (did I have/I had) with small children. I told her that I had two younger brothers and that I always helped my parents take care of them.

She also asked me (whether/if) I (knew/had known) how to drive. Sometimes an au pair has to drive kids to school and to playdates. I told her that I (had/have) just gotten my license. I asked her how many hours a week I (will/would) have to work, and she said 45. I wanted to know (if I would/would I) get paid, and she said I would be paid about \$200 a week. I also wanted to know (if/whether) I (would have/had had) the opportunity to go to school in the U.S., and she said yes. I asked her (if or not/whether or not) I had to do housework, and she said that I only had to take care of the kids.

I was so happy when I was accepted. My year in the U.S. was wonderful. When I got back, I knew what I (wanted/had wanted) to do. I majored in early childhood education and I am now a preschool teacher.

EXERCISE 23 Fill in the blanks to complete this story. Answers may vary.

I'm from Japan. I never imagined that I would be ^{1.} in the U.S. someday. But I heard about an au pair program and decided to apply. I didn't know 2. my parents 3. me permission to come here, but they did. They thought that living in another country 4. me more independent and responsible. And they were right.

Before I came to the U.S., I wondered _____ my life _____.
like. I thought that I _____ all the time and not have time for school and
friends. But that's not true. I've made a lot of good friends in my English class. I didn't realize
that I _____ people of different ages in a college class, but the students are as
young as 17 and as old as 75! I was also surprised by how many people of different nationalities I
_____. I've met students from many countries, from Panama to Portugal to Peru!
_____.

Before I came here, I thought that my English _____ almost perfect because I
had been studying it since I was a child. But I realized that I _____ a lot of
expressions, like "It's a piece of cake" (it's easy).

I wondered _____ the American family _____ me. They treat
me like a member of the family. I love their two preschool kids.

At first I made one big mistake. One afternoon, when the parents were working, the kids
asked me _____ they _____ watch TV. I thought that it
_____ OK. I let them watch whatever they wanted for as long as they wanted.
I thought that I _____ study while the kids were watching TV. When their mom
came home, she was upset. She said that the kids _____ allowed to watch only
one program a day: *Sesame Street*. She thought that this program _____ very
educational and that other programs _____ not so good for kids. She also told me
that she _____ the kids to use electronic devices a lot. She thought that it
_____ better for them to play with other kids than to play with electronics.
_____.