Say - Tell

We use **say** in **direct and reported speech** with or without a personal pronoun.
*Tom **said**, "I need some help."*
*Tom **said** (that) he needed some help.*
*Tom **said to me**, "I need some help."*
Tom said to me (that) he needed some help. (less common)

We use **tell** with a personal pronoun. We never use **to** with tell.
*"Tom **told me** (that) he needed some help." (NOT: Tom told to me ...)*

1. Fill in the gaps with say, said or told.

1 "Alright class, open your books to page five," **1)** ..... the teacher.
"Miss, what's our lesson about?" asked Amy.
"Today's lesson is about whales. Now, Amy read the first paragraph," she **2)** ..... her.
"Sorry Miss, what page did you **3)** .....?" Amy asked.
"I **4)** ..... page five."

2 "Hello, Jan" **1)** ..... Oscar.
"Hi, Oscar."
"I've got some great news," Oscar **2)** ..... her.
"Oh, really!" Jan **3)** ..... .
"Guess what! Sally **4)** ..... me that she'll be in town for a week!" **5)** ..... Oscar.

3 "I'm afraid I can't help you with the housework today," Greg **1)** ..... Diane.
"That's OK," **2)** ..... Diane.
"I know you're busy."
"But I can do the shopping," **3)** ..... Greg.
"That would be great," Diane **4)** ..... to him.

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2. Fill in the gaps with say or tell in the correct form.

1 Kathy ..... her friends the truth about what had happened that night.
2 "I'll call you later," he ..... to her.
3 Ken ..... us that he was having a barbecue at the weekend.
4 "Please turn the volume down," Cindy ..... .
5 "Open your books at page 29," ..... the teacher to her pupils.
6 "Could you ..... me the time, please?" he asked me.
7 Jane ran down the stairs, ... good morning and left for work.
8 My grandmother used to ..... us exciting stories by the fire every night.
9 "Why did you ..... everybody my secret?" he asked.
10 "I'm sorry. I can't ..... you the way to the station because I'm lost too," he said.

LIVEWORKSHEETS