

GRAMMAR Reported Speech

Reported Speech

When we report what someone said, we usually change the tense of the verbs.

Sam: 'I live in Southampton.' (present simple)
Sam said that he lived in Southampton. (past simple)

Kenny: 'I'm going to the beach.' (present continuous)
Kenny said he was going to the beach. (past continuous)

Marlene: 'I didn't finish the essay.' (past simple)
Marlene said that she hadn't finished the essay. (past perfect)

Lisa: 'I can't wait for the party!' (can)
Lisa said she couldn't wait for the party. (could)

We often need to change the pronouns and possessive adjectives when we report what someone said.

Laura: 'My friend's helping me to choose a new dress.'
Laura said her friend was helping her to choose a new dress.

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A. Complete the reported speech sentences with the correct *pronouns* or *possessive adjectives*.
(10 marks)

- 'I'm revising for my exams,' said Alice.
Alice said _____ was revising for _____ exams.
- 'I love you,' said Romeo.
Romeo said _____ loved _____.
- 'My grandparents took my little brother to the zoo,' said Joe.
Joe said _____ grandparents had taken _____ little brother to the zoo.
- 'I can't find my dad's birthday present!' said Grace.
Grace said _____ couldn't find _____ dad's birthday present.
- 'I'm giving you a test soon,' said the teacher.
The teacher said _____ was giving _____ a test soon.


B. Read the conversations and write what the students exactly said. Use contracted forms.
(8 marks)

- Olivia said that she didn't want to go to Louise's party.
Jack said that he was looking forward to it.
Olivia: I don't want to go to Louise's party.
Jack: I'm looking forward to it.

Direct speech	Reported speech
Present simple	Past simple
Present continuous	Past continuous
Present perfect	Past perfect
Past simple	Past perfect
can	could
will	would

- Cameron said he had bought a new phone.
Owen said he was really envious because he couldn't afford one!
Cameron: _____
Owen: _____
- Matilda said that she had missed school because she hadn't felt very well.
Reuben said that she was lucky as they had done a very difficult Maths test.
Matilda: _____
Reuben: _____
- Nicole said that Adam was going out with Layla.
Emilia said that couldn't be true because last week she had seen Adam at the cinema with Rosie!
Nicole: _____
Emilia: _____
- Alex said he felt really tired as he had gone to bed at two in the morning!
David said that he wasn't surprised.
Alex: _____
David: _____

C. Read the blog and report what these teenagers said about their birthdays. (4 marks)

Hi guys,
I asked some of my friends what they did on their last birthday, and this is what they said!

I went out with my mates for a pizza. *Ryan*
I didn't do anything on my last birthday because I had a horrible cold. *Tilly*
I went skiing at a snow dome. *Nathan*
We're twins so we had a big party! *Keira and Lexie*
I studied for an exam. It was the worst birthday of my life. *Leo*
My birthday is soon! My parents are planning a special surprise. *Aimee*

Ryan said that he'd gone out with his mates for a pizza.

Tilly said that she _____.

Nathan said he _____.

Keira and Lexie said that they _____.

Aimee said it was _____.