

Reported speech tutorial 1 – statements

What time is it now? It's

To rewrite a sentence in reported speech, you must compare the two situations:
where and when a sentence was said, and who were speaking, and
where and when it was reported in indirect speech, and who were speaking:

RULE 1

Was it said in a different **place**? →
replace **this, these, here** with **that, those, there**:

They had never been **here** before. →
She said they had never been **there** before.

RULE 2

Were the **1st and 2nd person** talking then
different from those talking now? →
change the **possessives and personal pronouns**
that refer to the **1st and 2nd person**:

I like **my** English teacher. →
He said **he** likes **his** English teacher.

RULE 3

Has enough **time** passed so that we cannot
be sure whether the situation is still the
same? →

a) "Move" the tense one step to the past:
am, is, are, have, has → was, were, had
did, made → had done, had made
will → would

b) Change the time expressions:

http://www.mademoiselle-navarro.es/cursoen/section/3_info/lesson/notes/reported_speech_1.htm#time

I'll start working here tomorrow. →
She said she'd start working there the
following day.

Question: What does **'d** represent in the
example above?

EXERCISE 1

Report what Donald Trump said on the 13th of March
2020; write **ONE WORD** in each gap:

1. "Today I am officially declaring a national
emergency."

He said officially
..... a national emergency.

2. "Half a million additional tests will be available early
next week."

He added that half a million additional tests
..... available
week.

3. "We don't want everybody taking this test. It's
totally unnecessary. This will pass."

He said everybody
..... test, since totally unnecessary,
because

4. "Our overriding goal is to stop the spread of this
virus."

He claimed overriding goal
..... the spread of virus.

5. "We want to help all the people in this country
who have been impacted by this virus."

He said all the people
in country who
..... by virus.

6. "What we've done is redesign it very quickly with
the help of the people around me."

He said
..... very quickly with the help
of the people around

EXERCISE 2

Report what Donald Trump said about the World Health Organization on the 6th of April 2020; write **ONE WORD** in each gap:

7. "We're going to put a hold on the money we give to the WHO."

He said a hold on the money to the WHO.

8. "They've been wrong about a lot of things."

Trump said wrong about a lot of things.

9. "Maybe now, in the middle of a pandemic is not the time to suspend money for the WHO."

A journalist objected that maybe, in the middle of a pandemic, the time money for the WHO.

10. "I'm not saying I'm going to do it, but we're going to look at it."

Trump concluded, but

EXERCISE 3

Report what Donald Trump said about a possible vaccine on the 9th of May 2020; write **ONE WORD** in each gap:

11. "This virus is going to go away without a vaccine."

He said that virus away without a vaccine.

12. "There are some viruses and 'flus that came, the vaccine was never found, and they disappeared."

He said some viruses and 'flus that, the vaccine never, and

13. "We expect 95,000 or more will die due to this virus."

He declared 95,000 or more due to virus.

EXERCISE 4

Report what Donald Trump said about taking hydroxychloroquine on the 19th of May 2020; write **ONE WORD** in each gap:

14. "My evidence is that I get a lot of positive calls about it."

He said evidence that a lot of positive calls about

15. "I've been taking it for about a week and a half now, and I'm still here."

He said about a week and a half, and

16. "All I can tell you is, so far I seem to be OK."

He said all, so far OK.

17. "I've heard a lot of good stories about it."

He said a lot of good stories about it."

When you finish, write the time here: It's

How long has it taken you do to this exercise? It has taken me minutes.

Now you can click on **Finished!!** to see your results.

(To report any mistakes, contact the author here)