

# 12B Gossip is good for you

She told him she was leaving.

He said that he would write.

## 1 SPEAKING & LISTENING

a Read the dictionary definition and then answer the questions with a partner.

**gossip** /'gɔsəp/ (v and n) to talk about other people, especially their private life

- 1 What kind of people gossip more?
  - a people in cities or people in small towns
  - b young people or old people
  - c men or women
- 2 Who do people most often gossip about?
  - a their neighbors
  - b people at work or school
  - c celebrities
- 3 Do you have any friends who gossip a lot?
- 4 How do you feel when people gossip about you?

b **5(21)** Listen to a conversation between Rosemary and Iris. What has happened to Jack and Emma? Listen again and answer the questions.

- 1 Jack and Emma are the woman's...
  - a neighbors.
  - b friends.
  - c children.
- 2 Rosemary thinks she heard them having...
  - a a conversation.
  - b a party.
  - c an argument.
- 3 According to Rosemary, Emma said she was...
  - a seeing another man.
  - b looking for a new job.
  - c going to stay with her mother.
- 4 She said she had...
  - a left the dog with a neighbor.
  - b left the children with her sister.
  - c left the dinner in the microwave.
- 5 Iris is going to...
  - a tell her husband.
  - b tell her family.
  - c tell another neighbor.

c **5(22)** Now listen to what Jack and Emma *really* said last night. Was Rosemary right about everything?

Yes, she is a good "metiche"

No, she was wrong for being "metiche"



## 2 GRAMMAR reported speech

a Look at some extracts from the conversations. Compare what Emma said (direct speech) with what Rosemary says that she said (reported speech). Underline the words that are different in the **highlighted** reported speech.

### 1 What Emma said

I'm going to stay with my mom.  
 I won't come back...  
 I've taken the children to my sister...

### 2 What Rosemary and Iris said

She said that **she was going to stay with her mother!** She told him that **she wouldn't come back.**  
 Ooh, how awful. What about the children?  
 She said **she'd taken them to her sister.**

b **► p.148 Grammar Bank 12B.** Learn more about reported speech and practice it.

c **5(24)** Listen to some sentences in direct speech. Say them in reported speech. Begin with **He said...** or **She said...**

)( I'm in a hurry.  She said that she was in a hurry.

)( I'll write.  He said that he would write.