

Language focus 1



Reported statements

1 ★ Complete the rules in the table.

- When we report a conversation, we can use the verbs _____ or _____.
- The verb _____ must be followed by a direct object, but the verb _____ has no direct object.

2 ★ Circle the correct words in the text.

He ¹told / ²said that his name was Julio, and ³said / told us that he was a tourist. Then he ³said / told that he didn't speak much English. He was hurt, so I ⁴said / told him that he needed to wait while I phoned for an ambulance. They ⁵said / told that it would take ten minutes. I tried to ⁶say / tell Julio that the ambulance wouldn't be long, but he was unconscious. Finally, the ambulance came and took him to hospital. The paramedics ⁷said / told us that we didn't need to worry, and that he would be OK. Let's hope so.

3 ★★ Complete the reported statements.

- 'I think it's wrong to download songs without paying,' said Errol.
Errol said that he thought it was wrong to download songs without paying.
- 'I ran after the pickpocket but I didn't catch him,' the boy told us.
The boy told us that he _____ after the pickpocket but that he _____ him.
- 'Although the cameras can't stop crime, they will help catch more criminals,' he said.
He said that although the cameras _____ crime, they _____ catch more criminals.
- 'I've reported the robbery to the police,' she said.
She said that she _____ the robbery to the police.
- 'The robbers broke into the school through a window,' the head teacher said.
The head teacher said that the robbers _____ into the school through a window.
- 'Crimes on property aren't as serious as crimes against people,' Karl said.
Karl said that crimes on property _____ as serious as crimes against people.

4 ★★ Read this report by a store detective. Write what the girl said.

- The teenager said that she was innocent.
I'm innocent.
- She told me that she hadn't stolen any sweets.
- She said that she had her little brother with her.
- She told me that he had put the sweets in her bag.
- She said that she would put them back.
- She told me that she could pay for them.

5 ★★★ Read what a witness said to a police officer. Then complete the report.

My name is Darren Smith. I live at number 27, Owen Road. I saw a car stop outside number 29 at about 8 o'clock last night. I've seen it before. It's a black Mercedes. I don't know the number. A man got out and went into the house. I can't remember what the man looked like. I'll ask my wife when she comes home.



The witness said that ¹ his name was Darren Smith, and that ² _____ at number 27, Owen Road. He told me that ³ _____ a car stop outside number 29 at about 8 o'clock on the night of the kidnapping. He said that ⁴ _____ before, that ⁵ _____ a black Mercedes, but that ⁶ _____ the number. He said that ⁷ _____ and gone into the house. He told me that ⁸ _____ what the man looked like. He told me that ⁹ _____ his wife when ¹⁰ _____ home.