

What did the people say? Rewrite the reported speech as direct speech.

1 She said that she wasn't going out.

'I'm not going out.'

2 He said that he wanted to go to bed.

3 They said they were arriving at six o'clock.

4 She said that she didn't like cheese.

5 He said he had been to Italy in 2009.

6 She said that she was reading a good book.

7 They said they had received a lot of good advice.

8 He said that he wasn't going to do the washing-up.

Complete the reported speech.

1 'Somebody stole my wallet,' said James.

James said somebody had stolen his wallet.

2 'The suspect is at the police station,' said Alex.

Alex said that the suspect _____ at the police station.

3 'The police are appealing for witnesses,' said the reporter.

The reporter said the police _____ for witnesses.

4 'I'm going to search the house,' said the officer.

The officer said she _____ the house.

5 'The police launched an investigation into the muggings,' said George.

George said that the police _____ an investigation into the muggings.

6 'In London the police make hundreds of arrests every day,' said the TV announcer.

The TV announcer said the police _____ hundreds of arrests every day.

7 'I think arson is worse than burglary,' said Jane.

Jane said she _____ that arson _____ worse than burglary.

Direct speech	Reported speech
present simple	→ ¹ past simple
present continuous	→ ² past continuous
past simple	→ ³ past perfect

yesterday – the day before tonight – that night
today – that day a week ago – a week earlier
here – there last Monday – the Monday before
this month – that month now – at that moment

Rewrite the direct speech as reported speech. You may have to change pronouns and references to time or place.

1 'We arrested the culprits last Tuesday,' said the police inspector.

The police inspector said that they had arrested the culprits the Tuesday before.

2 'Somebody broke into our house last night,' said Mike.

3 'People sometimes sell drugs outside my school,' said Kate.

4 'We are going to study the CCTV footage today,' said the police officer.

5 'Jack stole a camera from a shop yesterday,' said Fred.

6 'The police are looking for the thief who stole my car,' said Sam.

Read the police officer's radio report. Then rewrite it as reported speech below.

Police officer: The suspects are outside the bank ... They arrived two minutes ago ... They're getting out of their car ... I recognise one of them ... He robbed a bank in London four years ago ... They look nervous ... One of them is carrying a large black bag ... They are going into the bank ... I'm going to follow them.

1 The police officer said that the suspects were outside the bank.

2 She said _____.

3 She said _____.

4 She said _____.

5 She said _____.

6 She said _____.

7 She said _____.

8 She said _____.

9 She said _____.