Reported Speech

16

33 **Listen and repeat. Then act out.**



- **Direct speech is the exact words someone said. We use quotation marks in Direct speech.**
  He said, "I'll wait for you."

- **Reported speech is the exact meaning of what someone said but not the exact words. We do not use quotation marks in Reported speech.**
  He said that he would wait for me.

Say – Tell

- **We use say in Direct speech. We also use say in Reported speech when say is not followed by the person the words were spoken to. We use tell in Reported speech when tell is followed by the person the words were spoken to.**

Direct speech:	She **said to me**, "I am very tired."
Reported speech:	She **told me** that she was very tired.
Reported speech:	She **said that** she was very tired.

Expressions with say	**say good morning, etc., say something, say one's prayers, say so**
Expressions with tell	**tell the truth, tell a lie, tell a secret, tell a story, tell the time, tell the difference, tell sb one's name, tell sb the way, tell one from another**

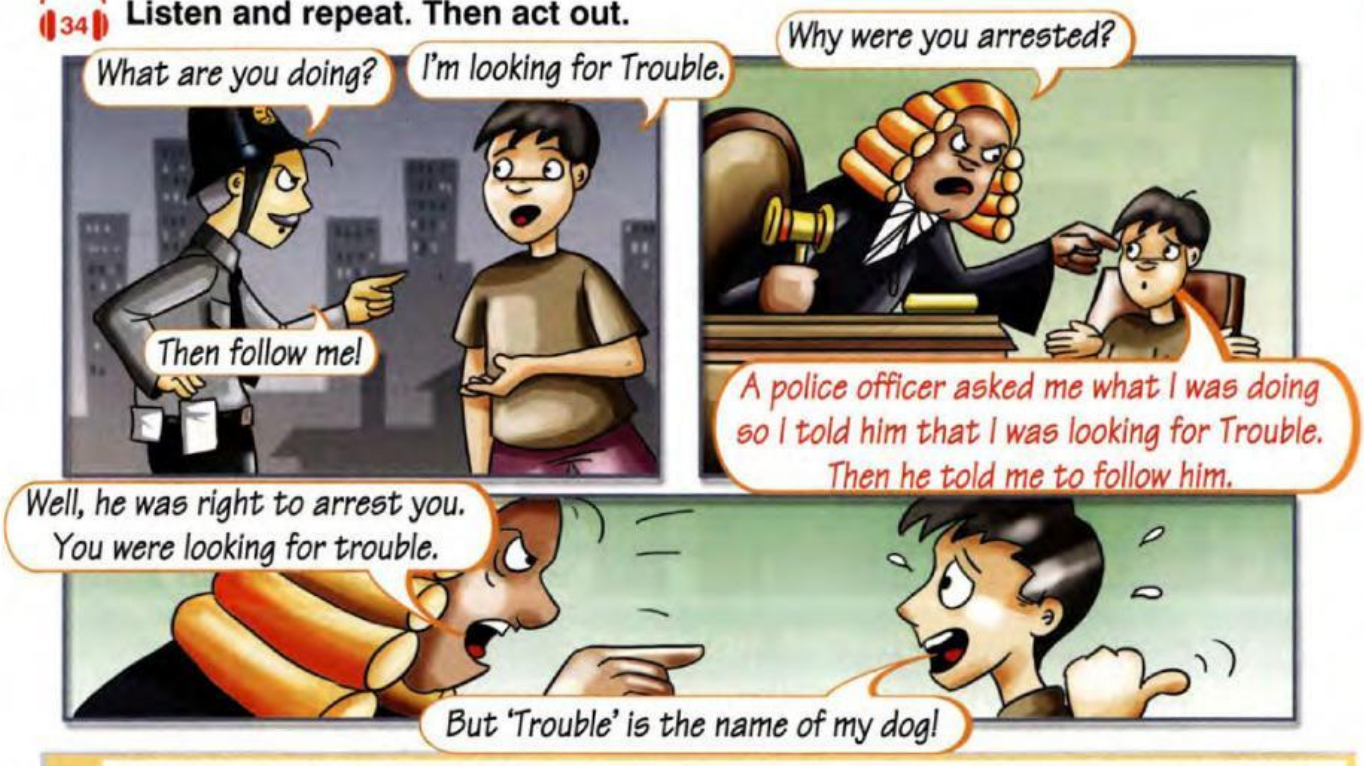
1 Fill in: *say* or *tell* in the correct form.

1 The police officer ..*said*.. that the man was lying.
2 Philip ..... it would probably rain tomorrow.
3 Susan ....., "Let's go out for dinner tonight."
4 Jim ..... me about the party last night.
5 Our teacher ..... he was pleased with our work.
6 Jane and Kate are twins. I really can't ..... one from the other.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

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34 **Listen and repeat. Then act out.**



We can report: A. statements B. questions C. commands, requests, suggestions

Reported Statements

- **To report statements we use a reporting verb (say, tell, advise, explain, promise, etc.) followed by a that-clause. In spoken English that may be omitted.**
- **Pronouns and possessive adjectives change according to the meaning.**
  Direct speech: He said, "**I** can't fix it **myself**."
  Reported speech: He said **he** couldn't fix it **himself.**
- **Certain words change as follows :**

Direct speech	this / these	here	come
Reported speech	that / those	there	go

"**This** is my book," he said. He said **that** was his book.

Note that:
can changes to **could**
will changes to **would**
may changes to **might**
must changes to **had to**

- **When the reporting verb is in the past, the verb tenses change as follows:**

Direct speech	Reported speech
Present Simple "I **want to** go to bed early," she said.	**Past Simple** She said she **wanted to** go to bed early.
Present Continuous "She**'s speaking** to Joe," he said.	**Past Continuous** He said she **was speaking** to Joe.
Present Perfect "I**'ve bought** you some flowers," she said.	**Past Perfect** She said she **had bought** me some flowers.
Past Simple "He **lost** all the money," she said.	**Past Perfect** She said he **had lost** all the money.
Future "I**'ll see** you later," he said.	**Conditional** He said he **would see** me later.

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- **Time expressions change as follows:**

Direct speech	Reported speech
tonight, today, this week / month / year	**that night, that day, that week / month / year**
now	**then, at that time, at once, immediately**
now that	**since**
yesterday, last night / week / month / year	**the day before, the previous night / week / month / year**
tomorrow, next week / month / year	**the day after, the next / following day, the next / following week / month / year**
two days / months / years, etc., ago	**two days / months / years, etc., before**
"He arrived **last week**," she said.	She said (that) he had arrived **the previous week**.

- **There are no changes in verb tenses when the reporting verb is in the Present, Future or Present Perfect tense or when the sentence expresses something which is always true.**

Direct speech	She'll **say**, "I can do it."	"The Earth **is** round," said the teacher.
Reported speech	She'll **say** (that) she can do it.	The teacher said (that) the Earth **is** round.

- **The Past Continuous does not usually change.**

Direct speech	"I **was travelling** to Brighton while she **was flying** to the USA," he said.
Reported speech	He said he **was travelling** to Brighton while she **was flying** to the USA.

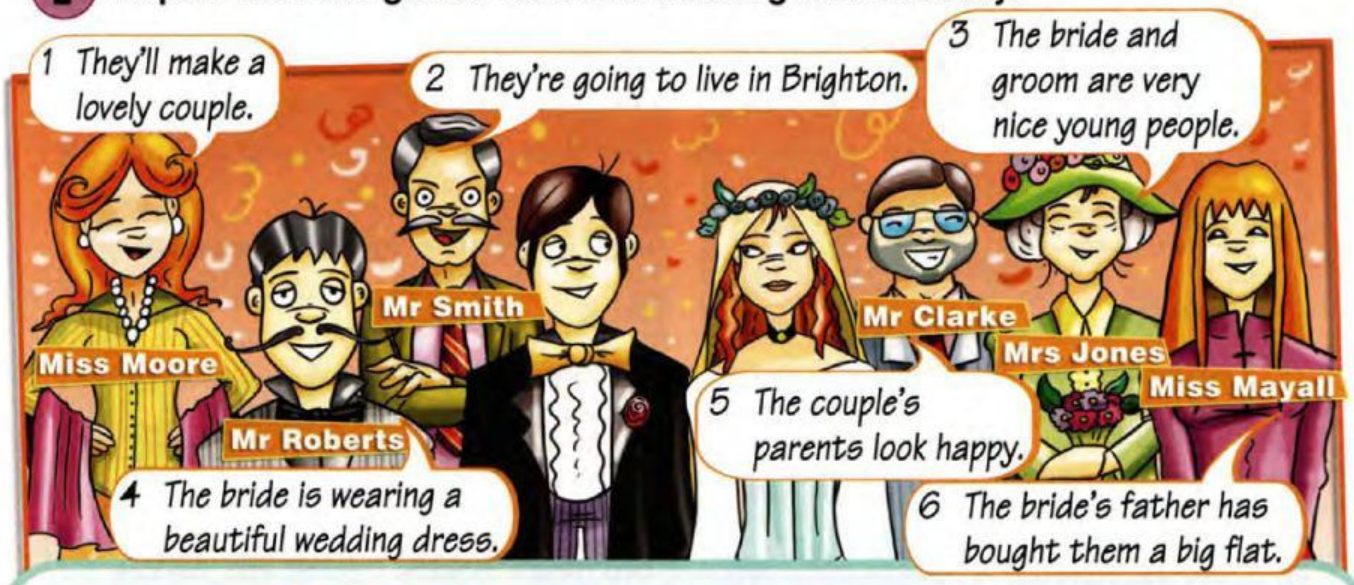
- **Certain modal verbs do not change in Reported speech. These are: would, could, might, should, ought to.**

Direct speech	"He might visit us," Mum said.
Reported speech	Mum said (that) he **might** visit us.

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2 Report what the guests said at a wedding last Saturday.



1 Miss Moore said (that) they would make a lovely couple.
2 Mr Smith .....
3 Mrs Jones .....
4 Mr Roberts .....
5 Mr Clarke .....
6 Miss Mayall .....

3 Rewrite the following sentences in *reported speech*.

1 "New Year's Eve is always on December 31st," she said.
She said (that) New Year's Eve is always on December 31st.

2 "The children are riding their bikes," Jennifer said to me.
.....

3 "The Earth revolves around the Sun," the teacher said to the students.
.....

4 "Jack and Karen have bought a house in the countryside," Nick said to us.
.....

5 "Burglars broke into the museum last night," the news reporter said.
.....

6 "Dad was mowing the lawn while I was cleaning the car," Ryan said.
.....

7 "We will have a housewarming party next week," said Mike and Helen.
.....

8 "Julia and José might move to Australia next year," Rory said to us.
.....

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