

Reported speech

1 Rewrite the sentences in direct speech.

- 1 Harry said that he'd never been there before.
'I've never been there before,' said Harry.
- 2 The guide pointed out that they were travelling past his house.

- 3 Jenny promised that she would wear her new dress the next day.

- 4 The two boys admitted that they were late that day, but said they had been early the day before.

- 5 Gavin explained that he'd already left the house by the time I'd rung.

- 6 Brenda told me she could help me with my homework if I was having problems with it.

2 Complete the email. Use the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

Home Profile Account

Hi Ben,

I went to the travel insurance company's office this morning and spoke to them about your skiing accident. I told them that you 1 _____ (still / wait) to hear from them, and they admitted that they 2 _____ (lose) your claim form. They said that they 3 _____ (send) you another one. I pointed out that you 4 _____ (not want) to try and phone them again because you 5 _____ (already / spend) a lot of money on calls that were never answered. They explained that 6 _____ (have) problems answering calls last week and that they 7 _____ (not can) call you because they didn't have the form with your phone number. They promised that they 8 _____ (pay) for the cost of your calls. The woman I spoke to added that she 9 _____ (be) very sorry about all this, and said that she 10 _____ (want) to offer you £100 extra when the claim is finally paid.

Love
Helen

3 Rewrite the sentences in reported speech. Use the reporting verbs in brackets.

- 1 'I'll take you to the concert if you manage to get tickets.'
He _____ (promised)
- 2 'Yes, we think the clock is running slow too.'
We _____ (agreed)
- 3 'OK, it's true, we've charged you both too much for these drinks.'
They _____ (admitted)

- 4 'You can't call Ellen because your phone doesn't have a signal.'
She _____ (pointed out)
- 5 'Your password didn't work because you didn't use any capital letters.'
He _____ (explained)
- 6 'Oh, and your grandmother rang to ask if you're going to her house tonight.'
She _____ (added)

4 Complete the magazine article with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

A MEETING WITH A TEENAGE CLAIRVOYANT!

I met Jodie Saunders in her local café. She said that very few people 1 _____ (know) anything about her special abilities, and that she

2 _____ (never / want)

to make a big thing of them. She told me that she 3 _____ (start)

hearing voices when she was a small child. 'The

voices sometimes come from things,' she said. 'My mum's coat once "told" me that she 4 _____ (have) problems at work. When I rang her, she said that she 5 _____ (feel) really ill. She asked if I

6 _____ (can) call my dad and ask if he

7 _____ (will) pick her up.'

Jodie explained that all of her visions of future events come in dreams. She said that she 8 _____ (dream) of the sun setting at two o'clock the night before her grandmother became very ill. 'I was amazed when my mum told me later that my grandma 9 _____ (die) at exactly two o'clock that afternoon.'

Jodie said she 10 _____ (always / think) that some humans have abilities that all animals still seem to have. She pointed out that just before she came home, her dog often 11 _____ (sit) by the door, even if it was at a different time than usual and she hadn't told anyone that she 12 _____ (come) home early.

5 CHALLENGE! Think of a conversation that you've had recently and write a report of it. Use lots of different reporting verbs. 📝