

The Reported Speech

The Reported Speech is defined by a magic number:

3 types of reporting

3 exceptions to the rule

3 changes

A. 3 types of reporting. Match the types of reporting with the corresponding examples:

a. statements

1. Do you like my outfit?

b. questions

2. Don't wear socks with sandals!

c. orders or commands

3. I'm wearing a new designer dress

B. 3 exceptions to the rule. Match the exceptions with the corresponding examples:

General truths, laws of
nature

He said he loves her.

Up-to-date reporting
(still true)

He says life at the
countryside is easier.

Reporting verb in the
present

He said that the Earth
revolves around the Sun.

C. 3 changes. Match the changes with the corresponding examples:

Tenses

We -> they

Pronouns

Present simple -> Past
Simple

Adverbs of time and place

Here -> there

1. Fill in the gaps with the words from the box below and discover which tenses change from direct to reported speech. You can use some words more than once.

PAST PERFECT / PAST CONTINUOUS / WOULD // PAST SIMPLE / HAD TO/ NO CHANGE	
DIRECT SPEECH	REPORTED SPEECH
PRESENT SIMPLE Mum: 'Are you hungry?'	Mum asked me if/whether I was hungry
PRESENT CONTINUOUS Claudia: 'I'm wearing a black dress today.'	Claudia said she was wearing a black dress that day.
PRESENT PERFECT Alex: 'I haven't seen elephants before.'	Alex told me he hadn't seen elephants before.
PAST SIMPLE Geo and Andrei: 'We ate cake yesterday.'	Geo and Andrei told us they had eaten cake the day before.
PAST PERFECT Tom: 'I had just turned out the light.'	Tom explained that he had just turned out the light.
MIGHT/COULD Jason: 'I might pass the exam.'	Jason said he might pass the exam.
MUST Diana: 'You must study more!'	Diana told me that I had to study more.
MUSTN'T Matei: 'You mustn't be late for school!'	Matei told me that I mustn't be late for school.
WILL Roger: 'When will Ana and Maria move to Italy?'	Roger asked me when Ana & Maria would move to Italy.
WOULD Elena: 'I would like to visit Paris.'	Elena told me she would like to visit Paris.

2. Fill in the gaps with the words from the box below and discover how some words describing time and place change from direct to reported speech.

that day / that / there / the next day / the previous week / the day before	
DIRECT SPEECH	REPORTED SPEECH
today	
tomorrow	
yesterday	
last week	
here	
this	