Task: Read the following **dialogue** between a journalist and a young director.

🎬 **"Behind the Scenes with Mia Grant" – Excerpt from a Film Magazine Interview**

Journalist: What inspired you to write *The Last Light*?

Mia: I wanted to explore how memory works in times of war.

Journalist: Did you expect it to be so successful?

Mia: No, I didn't. I thought only a few people would understand the story.

Journalist: What are you working on now?

Mia: I'm developing a short film. It will be shot entirely in black and white.

Journalist: Will you direct it yourself?

Mia: Yes, I will. I've learned a lot from my first film.

Journalist: That final scene was powerful. Did you plan it from the start?
Mia: Actually, no. My editor suggested it. It changed the whole meaning.

3. Comprehension Questions

1. Why did Mia write *The Last Light*?

   _____

2. Was she expecting it to be popular?

   _____

3. What is she working on now?

   _____

4. Will the next film be in color?

   _____

5. Who suggested the final scene?

   _____

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🧠 Vocabulary Focus

Task: Read each definition and write the correct word or phrase next to it.

Word Bank:
→ *explore – successful – editor – to direct – to suggest*

Instructions: Write the matching word from the word bank next to each definition.

1. _____: to make or direct a movie
2. _____: having a good result
3. _____: a person who helps shape the film
4. _____: to offer an idea or plan
5. _____: to look at something carefully

5. Grammar Explanation: Reported Speech with Variety

🧩 Focus: Moving from direct to reported speech using different **reporting verbs**:
say, tell, explain, admit, mention, add, reply

📌 **Examples from the dialogue:**

- Mia **said** she wanted to explore how memory works in times of war.
- She **admitted** she hadn't expected the success.
- She **explained** that her editor had suggested the final scene.

📚 **Reminder of tense changes:**

Direct speech	Reported speech
"I want..."	She said she **wanted**...
"I didn't..."	She admitted she **hadn't**...
"I'm working on..."	She said she **was working** on...
"It will be..."	She said it **would be**...
"My editor suggested"	She said her editor **had suggested**...

🧠 Grammar Note: Modals in Reported Speech – No Change

When we report speech, we often change the verb tense (e.g., *present → past*).
However, some **modal verbs** like **"would"**, **"could"**, **"should"**, and **"might" don't change** in reported speech.

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☑ *Example:*

Direct Speech:
"I thought only a few people **would** understand the story."

Reported Speech:
She said that only a few people **would** understand the story.

- "**would**" stays the same — it's already a past/future modal.

🔄 Quick Guide: What Doesn't Change

Modal Reported Speech

would stays **would**

could stays **could**

might stays **might**

should stays **should**

🎥 Practice Exercise 1: Rewrite the Interview as a Documentary Narration

Objective: Use reported speech with a variety of reporting verbs in a creative, guided way.

✏ *Instructions:*

1. Read the Q+A exchanges below.
2. For each, rewrite the director's answers as a documentary-style narration using reported speech. Use the guided start to help you.

🎥 *Example Q+A:*

Journalist: What inspired you to write *The Last Light*?

Mia: I wanted to explore how memory works in times of war.

Model Rewrite:

Mia Grant **explained** that she had wanted to explore how memory works in times of war, a theme she believed was often ignored in cinema.

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Now You Try:

Q: Did you expect it to be so successful?
A: No, I didn't. I thought only a few people would understand the story.

Guided Start:

Mia **admitted** that she hadn't expected the film to be a success. She **thought** that only_____

Q: What are you working on now?
A: I'm developing a short film. It will be shot entirely in black and white.

Guided Start:

She **revealed** that she was currently working on a short film, which
_____

Q: Did you plan the final scene from the start?
A: Actually, no. My editor suggested it. It changed the whole meaning.

Guided Start:

Mia **confessed** that she hadn't planned the final scene from the beginning. She **explained** that _____

🧠 **Useful Reporting Verbs:**
explained, admitted, revealed, confessed, pointed out, mentioned, added, stated, told the journalist

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🎞 Practice Exercise 2: Film Festival Press Report

Write a press article reporting 4 fictional quotes from a director using reported speech.

✏ *Instructions:*

1. Use the prompts to create a guided fictional report.
2. Use one reporting verb per sentence.
3. Follow the template below.

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📰 Template – Complete the Blanks

📍 **Context:** You are writing for the blog *Cinema Now*, summarizing a director's Q&A at Cannes.

At the recent Cannes Film Festival, director Nicole Jones poke about her new film *Nocturne*.

She _____ that the story had been inspired by her childhood memories of growing up near a factory.

The director also _____ that shooting in extremely challenging in winter was extremely challenging because the actors had to film at night.

She _____ she had made changes to the original ending just one week before filming.

Finally, she _____ that she was already working on her next project — a documentary about young female composers.

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