

In medical reports, we often explain what someone said or reported during treatment — but not using their exact words. We use reported speech (also called indirect speech) to do this in a formal and professional way.

## ◆ Grammar Focus – Reported Speech (Form & Use)

### ✓ How to form reported speech:

- Change the **tense** back (if the reporting verb is in the past).
- Use “**that**” to connect the sentence (optional in speech, recommended in writing).

“I **feel** pain.” > He said (that) he **felt** pain.

“I **took** aspirin.” > The patient said (that) he **had taken** aspirin.

“We **are monitoring** her.” > The doctor said (that) they **were monitoring** her.

**NOW YOU.... Choose the correct verb form from the options to complete the sentence.**

1.  The patient said, “I have a headache.”  
👉 The patient said that he (has / had) a headache.
2.  The nurse said, “She is vomiting.”  
👉 The nurse said that she (was / is) vomiting.
3.  The doctor said, “We gave her medication at 3 p.m.”  
👉 The doctor said that they (gave / had given) her medication at 3 p.m.
4.  The patient said, “I didn’t eat anything today.”  
👉 The patient said that he (didn’t eat / hadn’t eaten) anything that day.
5.  The paramedic said, “We are bringing in a trauma case.”  
👉 The paramedic said that they (were bringing / are bringing) in a trauma case.
6.  The patient asked, “Can I drink water?”  
👉 The patient asked if he (can / could) drink water.
7.  The doctor said, “We will discharge her tomorrow.”  
👉 The doctor said that they (will / would) discharge her the next day.
8.  The nurse asked, “Did you take your medication this morning?”  
👉 The nurse asked if the patient (took / had taken) his medication that morning.