

## Reported Statements

When we report statements (i.e. a positive or negative sentence), we use the verbs “say” or “tell” to introduce the statement. Pronouns (I, you, he etc, me, you, him etc, mine, yours, etc) and possessive adjectives (my, your, his etc) change according to the meaning.

**Direct speech:** *Ed said, “I live in Belfast.”*

**Reported speech:** *Ed said (that) he lived in Belfast.*

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

Direct speech	Reported speech
<b>Present Simple</b> “I <b>want</b> to go out,” he said.	<b>Past Simple</b> He said (that) he <b>wanted</b> to go out.
<b>Present Continuous</b> “She <b>is playing</b> in the garden,” he said.	<b>Past Continuous</b> He said (that) she <b>was playing</b> in the garden.
<b>Present Perfect</b> “They <b>have bought</b> a new house,” he said.	<b>Past Perfect</b> He said (that) they <b>had bought</b> a new house.
<b>Past Simple</b> “He <b>sent</b> me flowers,” she said.	<b>Past Perfect</b> She said (that) he <b>had sent</b> her flowers.
<b>Future Simple</b> “I’ll <b>order</b> a new fridge,” he said.	<b>Conditional (would)</b> He said (that) he <b>would order</b> a new fridge.

Certain words and time expressions change as follows:

Direct speech	Reported speech
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>tonight, today, this week/month etc.</li><li>now</li><li>yesterday, last night/week etc.</li><li>tomorrow, next week/month etc.</li><li>two days/months etc. ago</li><li>this, these</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>that night, that day, that week/month etc.</li><li>then, at the time</li><li>the day before, the previous night/week etc.</li><li>the following/next day, the next/following week/month etc.</li><li>two days/months etc. before</li><li>that, those</li></ul>

## Reported Statements

1 Fill in the gaps with the correct *pronouns* or *possessive adjectives*, as in the example.

- 1 • Kevin said, "I have lost my favourite sweater."  
• Kevin said that ...*he*... had lost ...*his*... favourite sweater.
- 2 • Lars said, "My brother is going to drive me to the station."  
• Lars said that ..... brother was going to drive ..... to the station.
- 3 • Aunt Mary said, "I want you to have dinner with me tomorrow night."  
• Aunt Mary said that ..... wanted ..... to have dinner with ..... the following night.
- 4 • Heidi said, "I'll buy a new sofa for my living-room."  
• Heidi said that ..... would buy a new sofa for ..... living-room.
- 5 • Sue and Frank said, "We are going to have a barbecue at our cottage next weekend."  
• Sue and Frank said that ..... were going to have a barbecue at ..... cottage, the next weekend.

**2 Turn the following direct sentences into reported speech, as in the example.**

1 "I'll go to the dentist," she said.

*She said (that) she would go to the dentist.*

2 "I have lived in Montreal for ten years," she said.

3 "We are leaving in June," Dad said.

4 "I forgot to take the dog for a walk," said Annie.

5 "We have done the washing-up," they said.

6 "I always wake up early on Mondays," he said.

7 "The Browns are looking for a new house," she said.

8 "We bought a flat two months ago," he said to Carol.

9 "I'll paint the garage next week," he said to Sam.

10 "I've brought you some flowers," he said to Julie.