

REPORTED SPEECH

Choose the correct option to complete the rules.

When we change direct speech to reported speech, we often make the verb form go one tense back.

Direct speech	Reported speech
Present simple	
'I like chips.'	He said he liked chips.
	Past continuous
'She's working.'	He said she was working.
	Past perfect
'He went out.'	He said he had gone out.
Present perfect	
'They've just arrived.'	He said they had just arrived.
Past perfect	Past perfect
'I hadn't noticed.'	She said she hadn't noticed.
can	
'She can't swim.'	He said she couldn't swim.
	would
'They will be here soon.'	He said they would be here soon.

The pronouns and possessive adjectives often change in reported speech.

'I'm cold,' she said.	(I →)
She said she was cold.	
'We're tired,' they said.	(we →)
They said they were tired.	
'I've borrowed your phone,' he said.	(your →)
He said he had borrowed my phone.	

Time expressions often change.

Direct speech	Reported speech
now	
	that day
tonight	that night
tomorrow	
next week / month / year	the following week / month / year
an hour ago	
	the day before
last week / month / year	the week / month / year before