

Grammar reported speech

▶ REPORTED SPEECH

We use reported speech to report what someone said in the past.

1 *People said that they **had never seen** anything like it.*

2 *People of all ages said they **loved** it!*

3 *Nintendo said they **were working** on a new type of gaming device.*

4 *Nintendo said that they **would produce** games for the whole family to play.*

Note: After the reporting verb *said*, you can use *that* but you don't have to.

For more information and practice, see page 176.

6 Look at the grammar box. Match the sentences with reported speech (1–4) to these sentences with direct speech (a–d).

- a People of all ages said, "We love it!" ____
- b Nintendo said, "We are working on a new type of gaming device." ____
- c Nintendo said, "We will produce games for the whole family to play." ____
- d People said, "We've never seen anything like it." ____

8 Read the first sentence in each item, and complete the second sentence with the correct verb form.

- 1 The boy said, "I love playing Super Mario."
The boy said that he _____ playing Super Mario.
- 2 She said that she wanted a new Xbox.
She said, "I _____ a new Xbox."
- 3 The company said, "We are planning a new version of the game."
The company said they _____ a new version of the game.
- 4 Their message said they had gone to the movies.
Their message said, "We _____ to the movies."
- 5 My father said, "I bought my first Game Boy in 1990."
My father said he _____ his first Game Boy in 1990.
- 6 Julian said he would play against us later.
Julian said, "I _____ against you later."

- 9**  **88** Listen to a short conversation between Jack and Sonia. Write down what they say.

- 1 Jack: I need the TV for my game.
- 2 Sonia: _____
- 3 Jack: _____
- 4 Sonia: You're always using the TV. I haven't watched it for ages.
- 5 Jack: _____

- 10** Rewrite the conversation from Exercise 9 as reported speech.

- 1 Jack said that he needed the TV for his game.
- 2 Sonia said that she _____
- 3 Jack said that he _____
- 4 Sonia said that Jack _____
and that she _____
- 5 Jack said that he _____