GRAMMAR IN CONTEXT Reported questions

In reported questions, we report what someone has asked. We use verbs such as *ask*, *want to know*, and *wonder*. We generally use an object pronoun after *ask*.

We usually use the past tense of the reporting verb, e.g., *asked* or *wondered*, and change the tense as we do in reported statements.

To report a *wh-* question, we use:

ask + (object) + question word + clause (with affirmative word order)

"Why didn't I enjoy myself?" (past tense) → I wondered why I hadn't enjoyed myself. (past perfect)

Note that the subject comes before the verb, and we do not use the auxiliary verb *do*.

To report a *yes/no* question, we use:

ask + (object) + *if* or *whether* + clause (with affirmative word order)

"Has this word changed your life?" → My friend asked me if this word had changed my life.

8 IDENTIFY Correct the error in each sentence.

1 Maria asked me she could borrow my tablet.
2 He wondered why they hadn't add the word to the dictionary yet.
3 She asked us what were we listening to.
4 They wanted to know I was interested in the speech.
5 The teacher asked Hao he hadn't finished his presentation by the deadline.
6 Tom asked if could he come with us to the lecture.

9 INTEGRATE Complete the reported questions. Use the verbs in parentheses to help you.

1 "Why haven't you read the speech?" (ask, you)
I _____.
2 "Did she enjoy the trip to the lake?" (ask)
He _____.
3 "Why did Ella choose that quote?" (wonder)
Elisa _____.
4 "What have you learned about Chief Joseph?" (ask, we)
He _____.
5 "What are you both studying?" (want to know)
They _____.
6 "Do you want to improve your lives?" (ask, we)
She _____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS