Grammar

Reported Speech: Questions-Commands-Requests

A Read the examples and answer the questions.

DIRECT SPEECH	REPORTED SPEECH
Jack: *Can I have some more?* ***Mr Colridge:*** *Why do you want some more?*	*Jack asked if/whether he could have some more.* *Mr Colridge asked why he wanted some more.*

- What comes after *asked* when the question begins with a question word?
- What comes after *asked* when we report a Yes/No question?
- Are the verbs in reported questions in the affirmative or in the question form?

B Read the examples and complete the rule.

DIRECT SPEECH	REPORTED SPEECH
Jack: *Please, give me some more.* ***Mr Colridge:*** *Don't ask for more!*	*Jack asked Mr Colridge to give him some more.* *Mr Colridge told him not to ask for more.*

The imperative changes to: ....TO.... + **base form** and the negative imperative **(don't)** changes to: ....NOT TO.... + **base form**.

C Complete the sentences using Reported Speech.

1. 'Where have you put the keys? Mario asked me.
   Mario asked me .....
2. 'Please show me the way to the station,' Mandy said to the woman.
   Mandy asked the woman
   .....
3. 'Don't eat the cake!' Kim said to Gary.
   Kim told Gary .....
4. 'Do you want some coffee?' Dave asked me.
   Dave asked me .....
5. 'Sit down at once!' Mrs. Humphrey said to the student.
   Mrs. Humphrey told the student
   .....
6. 'Why are you whispering?' Fred asked Tony.
   Fred asked Tony
   .....

Grammar

Reported Speech: Statements

A Read the examples, answer the questions and complete the rules.

DIRECT SPEECH	REPORTED SPEECH
• 'You are a thief!' the woman said.	• The woman said that I was a thief.
• 'I did it by accident,' I said to the woman.	• I told the woman that I had done it by accident.
• 'We can leave,' I said to my friends.	• I told my friends that we could leave.

- When do we use Reported Speech?
- In the examples above, which words have changed in Reported Speech?

- *Say* and *tell* are reporting verbs. Use ..... before an indirect object (person) and ..... when there is no indirect object.
- Pronouns and possessive adjectives change according to the meaning of the sentence.
- Tenses, modal verbs and time expressions usually change as follows:

DIRECT SPEECH		REPORTED SPEECH
Present	→	.....
Past	→	.....
Present Perfect	→	Past Perfect
will	→	would
can	→	.....
should	→	should

DIRECT SPEECH		REPORTED SPEECH
this	→	that
today	→	that day
yesterday	→	the previous day / the day before
last week	→	the previous week / the week before
tomorrow	→	the next day / the following day
next year	→	the following year

B Complete the sentences using Reported Speech.

1. 'I felt so embarrassed yesterday,' Lisa said to me.
   Lisa told me .....
2. 'I can give you a ride to the airport tomorrow,' Fred said to Mike.
   Fred told .....
3. 'We've never been to this restaurant before,' the girls said.
   The girls said .....
4. 'We'll go skiing together next year,' Thomas said to Paul.
   Thomas told .....
5. 'My brother washes his car once a week.' Tim said.
   Tim said .....