

# REPORTED SPEECH

## A. Select the correct answer.

1. 'I have three daughters,' said Helen. > She said that \_\_\_\_ has three daughters.

she

her

he

my

2. 'We are going to the post office,' said John. > John said that \_\_\_\_ were going to the post office.

they

he

you

him

3. 'You look tired,' Alex said to me. > Alex said that \_\_\_\_ looked tired.

they

she

I

you

4. 'Edward is quite intelligent,' said Fiona. > Fiona said that \_\_\_\_ friend is quite intelligent.

he

her

his

she



5. 'You and I are late for the meeting,' Jodie said to me. > Jodie said that \_\_\_\_ were late for the meeting.

us

they

you

we

6. 'The dog has a broken leg,' said Marcel. Marcel said that \_\_\_\_ leg was broken.

them

our

he

its

## B. True or false?

1. Reported speech is also known as direct speech.

True

False

2. When you change direct speech into reported speech, you must always change the tense of the verb.

True

False

3. Backshifting describes 'moving back' tenses in reported speech.

True

False



C. Change the direct speech into reported speech. Use backshifting in all exercises.

1. Lawrence said, 'My legs are tired.'

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2. Graham said, 'I'm not going to work.'

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3. Oliver and Rachel said, 'We don't enjoy swimming.'

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4. Theo said, 'I want to eat something.'

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5. Lucy said, 'Sarah is looking at the painting.'

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D. Write the original words. Remember to use quotation marks to start and finish the quote. Assume that backshifting happened from the direct speech to reported speech.

For example: Derek said that he was angry. *Derek said, 'I am angry.'*

1. Leah said that she was working every day.

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2. Toby and Katie said they were going on vacation.

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3. William said that it was raining.

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4. Tom said that he went to school five days a week.

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5. Jordan said that she planned to visit her mother.

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