

Reported Speech

We use **Reported Speech** to retell the information said by someone else. To make the Reported Speech, you need to **change the perspective** from that person's to yours. To achieve that, follow these simple rules:

Grammar tense change

To change the tense, take one step back in time:

Direct Speech	Reported Speech
Present Simple	Past Simple
Present Continuous	Past Continuous
Present Perfect	Past Perfect
Past Simple	Past Perfect
Past Continuous	Past Perfect Continuous
Future Simple (will)	Future in the past (would)

*I **haven't** played this game. – He said he **hadn't** played this game.*

Modal verbs

can	could
will	would
may	might
have to	had to
must	had to

*I **can** easily pass this level. – She said she **could** easily pass this level.*

Pronouns

Change the pronouns so that you talk about people from your perspective:

I, me, my	he/she, him/her, his/her
we, us, our	they, them, their
you, you, your	I/we, me/us, my/our

*I am **your** best friend. – He said **he** was **my** best friend.*

Time and space indicators

As Reported Speech changes the perspective, the time and space for you also change:

this, these	that, those
now	at that moment
today	that day
yesterday	the previous day
last year	the previous year
ago	before
tomorrow	the following day
next week	the following week

Yesterday I was feeling terrible, I hope I will be fine next week. – He said that the previous day he had been feeling terrible and he hoped he would be fine the following week.

Questions

The questions lose their original word order. Use **asked 'if'** or **'whether'** and normal word order instead:

Do you play games? - He asked if / whether I played games.

Orders and requests

To retell other's orders or requests, add **'to'**. The infinitive verb remains the same:

Switch on the light. - He said to switch on the light.

Change the Direct Speech to Reported Speech:

Mike: *"I have a sister."*

1. Mike said he _____ a sister.

"I am the oldest child."

2.



"It is fun to have a sibling, but it can also be hard sometimes."

3.

"I have to look after her."

4.

"Two weeks ago, I was washing the dishes and my sister broke a mug."

5.

"This mug was my mom's favourite, and she were furious!"

6.

"Now, I am teaching my sister to be more careful."

7.

"She has been really well-behaved today."

8.

"I will teach her even more things in the future."

9.