

LANGUAGE IN ACTION

Reported statements



4 ★★ Read the conversation. Then complete the reported speech below.

1 ★ How do the tenses and verbs change in reported speech? Complete the table.

Direct speech	Reported speech
present simple	¹ past simple
past simple	²
present perfect	³
present continuous	⁴
will	⁵
can	⁶

2 ★ Complete the sentences with *said* or *told*.

- 1 My sister said she went to a really interesting music festival last year.
- 2 George told me that he had some new tracks for me to listen to.
- 3 I told everyone that I had a spare ticket for the concert.
- 4 Sally said that she couldn't go to the campsite because she didn't have a tent.
- 5 Laura told us to meet her in front of the stage.
- 6 I said I didn't know who the support act was.

3 ★★ Rewrite the reported speech as direct speech.

- 1 Ashraf said that he was in a café.
'I'm in a café.'
- 2 He told me that he was having lunch.
'
- 3 He said he wanted to meet me.
'
- 4 He said that he had been in the café for an hour.
'
- 5 He told me he would leave in about 30 minutes.
'
- 6 He told me to come quickly.
'

ME Hi, Ashraf!

ASHRAF Hi! I'm really happy to see you! I have some exciting news. I'm thinking of going to a festival in the summer. I want you to come with me.

ME Hmm, I'm not sure. Where is it? How much is it?

ASHRAF It's not far away. It's in the countryside. The tickets are about £30. I've been there before. I had a great time.

ME OK, but where would we stay?

ASHRAF Well, there's a campsite. We can stay in a tent. It won't be expensive.

ME OK, I'll think about it.

ASHRAF Great!



I went to the café to meet Ashraf. He said that he ¹ was happy to see me and that he ² said some exciting news. He told me that he ³ thought of going to a festival in the summer, and then he told me that he ⁴ told me to go with him. I said that I ⁵ wasn't sure, and I asked where the festival was and how much it was. Ashraf said that it ⁶ wasn't far away, in the countryside, and the tickets ⁷ were about £30. He said that he ⁸ had been there before and that he ⁹ had a great time. He also said that we ¹⁰ were in a tent, so it ¹¹ wasn't very expensive. I said that I ¹² wasn't about it.

5 ★★★ Think of a conversation you had with someone recently. What did you talk about? Write at least five sentences using reported speech.

I was talking to Mum yesterday. She told me ...