Unit 7

Reported Speech – Statements and Questions

RULES

1 **In reported statements and questions, we move the verb one tense back when the reporting verb is in the past.**

"I'm sure we will lose," said Beth.

*Beth **said** that she **was** sure they **would lose**.*

2 **In reported statements, we often add the word *that*.**

"She's won the award three times," announced the reporter.

*The reporter announced **that** she had won the award three times.*

3 **In reported statements and questions, we usually change personal pronouns, time and place expressions and demonstrative and possessive adjectives and pronouns.**

"I'm going to watch the game with my friends tomorrow," said Paul.

*Paul mentioned that **he** was going to watch the game with **his** friends **the following day**.*

4 **In Yes / No and Wh- questions, the reported question is transformed into an affirmative sentence, so there is no subject-verb inversion.**

"What equipment do you need?" asked my coach.

*My coach wanted to know what equipment **I needed**.*

5 **In Yes / No questions, we begin the reported question with the words *if* or *whether*.**

"Will the All Blacks win the rugby tournament?" asked Ethan.

*Ethan asked **if** / **whether** the All Blacks would win the rugby tournament.*

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1 Choose the correct answer.

1 "We have never had a rugby team like this one."
I told my friends that we **have never had** / **had never had** a rugby team like **that** / **this** one.

2 "Where did you put the trophy last night?"
The captain asked us where we **put** / **had put** the trophy the **following** / **previous** night.

3 "Our team is going to beat the visitors this Saturday."
I told the reporter that our team **would beat** / **was going to beat** the visitors **that** / **this** Saturday.

4 "Will it rain this afternoon?"
We wanted to know whether it **would rain** / **will rain** **this** / **that** afternoon.

5 "Do you think you could help us?"
Tammy asked me if I **thought** / **think** I could help **her** / **them**.

Orders, Requests and Suggestions

1 **In reported orders and requests, we use the infinitive with *to*.**

"Run around the track," ordered the coach.

*The coach **ordered the players to run** around the track.*

2 **In negative reported orders, we use *not* + infinitive with *to*.**

"Don't touch the trophy," warned the captain.

*The captain **warned the players not to touch** the trophy.*

3 **In reported suggestions, the reporting verb can be followed by a gerund or *that* + subject + base form.**

"Let's watch the match," suggested Grace.

*Grace suggested **watching** / **that we watch** the match.*

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2 Complete the following orders, requests and suggestions in reported speech.

1 "Run faster!"
The coach told him ..... faster.

2 "Bring your football."
She told me ..... my football.

3 "You shouldn't eat before the game."
The doctor told us ..... before the game.

4 "Let's play basketball."
Our teacher suggested that ..... basketball.

5 "Can you train me?"
Luke asked ..... him.

3 Complete the sentences in reported speech.

1 "We're planning to go on holiday next June."
Jack stated that ..... .

2 "Did you get tickets for the tennis tournament?"
Henry asked us ..... .

3 "Be on the playing field at 8.30 sharp!"
The coach ordered us ..... .

4 "Owen, how are you coping at your new school?"
Dan wanted to know ..... .

5 "Can you bring the equipment tomorrow?"
Gail asked if ..... .

6 "Let's watch athletics on TV tonight."
Simon suggested ..... .

7 "I ate a healthy lunch."
Beth said that ..... .

LIVEWORKSHEETS