



## DIRECT AND REPORTED SPEECH

### Simple PRESENT

When converting simple present tense verbs from direct speech to reported speech, there are some changes that need to be made to the verb tense and reporting verbs.

Direct

She said, "It is a great dessert."

Reported

She said that it was a great dessert.



In this example, the simple present verb "is" is changed to the past tense "was" in the reported speech.

### Present CONTINUOUS

To convert present continuous direct speech to reported speech, change the present continuous tense verb to the past continuous tense verb.

Direct

She said, "I am studying."

Reported

She said that she was studying.



In this example, the present continuous tense "am studying" is changed to the past continuous tense "was studying" in the reported speech.

### Present PERFECT

To convert present perfect direct speech to reported speech, change the present perfect tense verb to the past perfect tense verb.

Direct

He said, "I have gone shopping."

Reported

He said that he had gone shopping.



In this example, the present perfect tense "have gone" is changed to the past perfect tense "had gone" in the reported speech.

### Present Perfect CONTINUOUS

To convert present perfect continuous direct speech to reported speech, change the present perfect continuous tense verb to the past perfect continuous tense verb.

Direct

She said, "I have been modeling."

Reported

She said that she had been modeling.



In this example, the present perfect continuous "have been modeling" is changed to the past perfect continuous "had been modeling."

### Simple PAST

To convert simple past direct speech to reported speech, change the simple past tense verb to the past perfect tense verb.

They said, "We finished our project."

Direct

They said they had finished their project.



In this example, the simple past "finished" is changed to the past perfect "had finished" in the reported speech.

### Past CONTINUOUS

To convert past continuous direct speech to reported speech, change the simple past continuous verb to the past perfect continuous tense verb.

Direct

He said, "I was drinking coffee."

Reported

He said that he had been drinking coffee.



The past continuous "was drinking" is changed to the past perfect continuous "had been drinking" in the reported speech.

# DIRECT AND REPORTED SPEECH

## It is your turn

Change the following sentences into reported speech by applying the rules you have learned. Focus on the verb tense used and apply what you learned. Write your sentence in the space below each item.

"I always drink coffee in the morning," she said.

"I worked as a teacher," he said.

"I am watching a movie," she said.

"I was studying for my final exams," he said.

"I have put the wallpaper on the wall," she said.

"I have traveled to many countries in my life," he said.

"We have been studying for an hour straight," they said.

"I have been waiting for you for thirty minutes," he said.

