# Class 8 – Indirect Speech Worksheet 1

## 1. What is Indirect Speech?

When we tell someone what another person said, we can use **Indirect Speech**.

### Direct Speech

We repeat the person's exact words and use quotation marks.

> Tom said, “I am tired.”

### Indirect Speech

We report what the person said without using the exact words.

> Tom said that he was tired.

The quotation marks are removed, and some words may have to change.

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# 2. Important Rules

### Rule 1: Remove the quotation marks

**Direct:**
Sarah said, “I am happy.”

**Indirect:**
Sarah said that she was happy.

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### Rule 2: Change the pronouns

The pronoun must fit the person who is speaking.

**Direct:**
Tom said, “I like football.”

**Indirect:**
Tom said that **he** liked football.

**Direct:**
Lisa said, “My brother is at home.”

**Indirect:**
Lisa said that **her** brother was at home.

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## Rule 3: Change the tense

When the reporting verb is in the past, the tense usually moves one step into the past.

| Direct Speech | Indirect Speech |
|---|---|
| am / is | was |
| are | were |
| was / were | had been |
| have / has | had |
| do / does | did |
| did | had done |
| will | would |

| | |
|---|---|
| can | could |
| must | had to |

### Examples

“I am tired.”
→ He said that he **was** tired.

“I have finished.”
→ She said that she **had finished**.

“I will help you.”
→ He said that he **would help** me.

“I can swim.”
→ She said that she **could swim**.

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# 3. Changes in Time and Place

Some time and place expressions also change.

| Direct Speech | Indirect Speech |
|---|---|
| today | that day |
| tomorrow | the next day / the following day |
| yesterday | the day before |

| | |
|---|---|
| now | then |
| tonight | that night |
| last week | the week before |
| next week | the following week |
| here | there |
| this | that |
| these | those |

### Example

“I will see you tomorrow.”

→ He said that he would see me **the next day**.

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# 4. Statements with “said”

For ordinary statements, we often use:

**said + that + sentence**

### Example:

Direct:
Emma said, “I like English.”

Indirect:
Emma said **that** she liked English.

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# 5. Questions

For questions, we do **not** use the normal question word order.

### Yes/No questions

Use **if** or **whether**.

Direct:
Tom asked, “Are you tired?”

Indirect:
Tom asked me **if I was tired**.

Direct:
She asked, “Do you like pizza?”

Indirect:
She asked me **if I liked pizza**.

### WH-questions

Keep the question word: **what, where, when, why, who, how**, etc.

Direct:
He asked, “Where do you live?”

Indirect:
He asked me **where I lived**.

❌ He asked me where did I live.

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# 6. Commands and Requests

For commands and requests, we often use:

**told / asked + person + to + verb**

### Command

Direct:
The teacher said, “Open your books.”

Indirect:
The teacher **told us to open** our books.

### Request

Direct:
Mum said, “Please help me.”

Indirect:
Mum **asked me to help** her.

### Negative command

Use:

**told / asked + person + not to + verb**

Direct:
Dad said, “Don't make so much noise.”

Indirect:
Dad **told us not to make** so much noise.

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# A. Change the statements into Indirect Speech

1. Tom said, “I am tired.”
2. Sarah said, “I like this book.”
3. Ben said, “I have finished my homework.”
4. Lisa said, “I will call you tomorrow.”
5. Jack said, “I can swim very well.”
6. Emma said, “I saw a strange bird yesterday.”
7. Daniel said, “We are going to the cinema tonight.”
8. Mia said, “I have lost my keys.”

9. Peter said, “I was watching TV.”
10. Anna said, “I will help my brother.”
11. Mark said, “I cannot find my phone.”
12. Sophie said, “I have never been to Scotland.”
13. David said, “My parents are at work.”
14. Lucy said, “I bought this jacket last week.”
15. Alex said, “I must finish this project today.”

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# B. Change the pronouns and tenses carefully

16. Julia said, “I am studying for my English test.”
17. Oliver said, “I finished my homework yesterday.”
18. Chloe said, “I will meet my friends tomorrow.”
19. Max said, “We are playing football today.”
20. Emily said, “I have already eaten lunch.”
21. Noah said, “My sister was sleeping when I came home.”
22. Hannah said, “I can help you with your homework.”
23. William said, “I saw James two days ago.”
24. Amelia said, “We have lived here for five years.”
25. George said, “I am going to visit my grandparents next week.”

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# C. Change the questions into Indirect Speech

Remember:

- **Yes/No question → if/whether**
- **WH-question → keep the question word**
- Use normal sentence order.

26. Sarah asked, “Where do you live?”
27. Tom asked me, “Are you hungry?”
28. Emma asked, “What are you doing?”
29. Daniel asked me, “Have you finished your homework?”
30. Lucy asked, “When will you arrive?”

31. Ben asked me, “Can you help me?”
32. Sophie asked, “Why are you laughing?”
33. Jack asked me, “Did you see the new film?”
34. Anna asked, “Where did you buy that bag?”
35. Max asked me, “Do you like football?”

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# D. Change the commands and requests

36. The teacher said to the students, “Open your books.”
37. Mum said to me, “Clean your room.”
38. The doctor said to Tom, “Drink plenty of water.”
39. Dad said to us, “Do not make so much noise.”
40. The teacher said to the class, “Do not use your phones.”
41. Emma said to her brother, “Please help me.”
42. The librarian said to the children, “Be quiet.”
43. The coach said to the players, “Run faster.”
44. My mother said to me, “Don’t forget your keys.”
45. The teacher said to us, “Please hand in your homework tomorrow.”

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# E. Choose the correct answer

46. Jack said that he ___ tired.

a) is
b) was
c) has been

47. Emma said that she ___ her homework.

a) has finished
b) had finished
c) finishes

48. Tom asked me where I ___.

a) lived
b) did I live
c) live

49. Sarah asked me ___ I liked chocolate.

a) what
b) if
c) that

50. The teacher told us ___ our books.

a) opened
b) opening
c) to open

51. Mum told me ___ late.

a) not to be
b) don't be
c) not be

52. Ben said that he ___ call me the next day.

a) will
b) would
c) can

53. Lisa asked me whether I ___ help her.

a) could
b) can
c) will

54. Daniel said that he had seen Anna ___.

a) two days ago
b) two days before
c) tomorrow

55. The teacher asked us what we ___ doing.

a) are
b) were
c) did

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# F. Correct the mistakes

Each sentence contains one mistake. Rewrite it correctly.

56. Jack said that he is tired.
57. Emma said that she had finished her homework yesterday.
58. Tom asked me where did I live.
59. Sarah asked me if I was like chocolate.
60. The teacher told us to opened our books.
61. Mum told me don't be late.
62. Ben said that he will call me the next day.
63. Lisa asked me whether I can help her.
64. Daniel said that he had seen Anna two days ago.
65. The teacher asked us what were we doing.