

DIRECT AND INDIRECT SPEECH

Exercise 1

Complete the table below to show the change in tenses and time signifiers when converting from direct to indirect speech. An example is given to you.

Direct Speech	Indirect Speech
1. gives	gave
2. took	
3. is running	
4. will arrive	
5. must	
6. yesterday	
7. last week	
8. tomorrow	

Exercise 2

Convert the direct speech to indirect speech.

1. “You have been selected to participate in an Art Competition,” Mrs Smith told the students.

Mrs Smith told the students that _____
_____.

2. “Are you waiting for a taxi?” the stranger asked my sister and me.

The stranger asked my sister and me _____
_____.

3. “When Tom is at school tomorrow, I will be attending a computer course,” Mrs Simmons told her husband.

Mrs Simmons told her husband that _____
_____.

4. “You may not be allowed into the theatre because the concert started an hour ago,” Jake told Ann.

Jake told Ann that _____.

5. “The runaway hid in this cave for a week,” the police reported.

The police reported that _____
_____.

Exercise 3

Convert the indirect speech to direct speech.

1. Sue said that she had drawn the winning picture in the previous year's art competition.

Sue said, "_____."

2. My brothers said that they would help me with my school project.

My brothers said, "_____."

3. The veterinarian advised me to bring my pet back for a checkup the next day.

"_____" the veterinarian advised me.

4. Sarah said that she had gone to Japan the previous month.

Sarah said, "_____."

5. The fisherman said that he was disappointed with his catch.

The fisherman said, "_____."

1. Sue said, "I drew the winning picture in last year's art competition."
2. My brothers said, "We will help you with your school project."
3. "Bring your pet back for a checkup tomorrow," the veterinarian advised me.
4. Sarah said, "I went to Japan last month."
5. The fisherman said, "I am disappointed with my catch."

Exercise 3

1. Mrs Smith told the students that they had been selected to participate in an Art Competition.
2. The stranger asked my sister and me if we were waiting for a taxi.
3. Mrs Simmons told her husband that when Tom was at school the next day, she would be attending a computer course.
4. Jake told Ann that she might not be allowed into the theatre because the concert had started an hour before.
5. The police reported that the runaway had hidden in that cave for a week.

Exercise 2

2. had taken
3. was running
4. would arrive
5. must/had to (present) or must/would have to (future)
6. the day before/the previous day
7. the week before/the previous week
8. the next day

Exercise 1

Answers: