

UNIT 19

DIRECT AND INDIRECT SPEECH



REVIEW

Direct speech uses the exact words of the speaker. **Indirect speech** reports what the speaker has said.

Review these.

When **direct speech** is changed to **indirect speech**, certain changes are usually made.

Changes in tense

| Direct speech | Indirect speech |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| simple present | simple past |
| present continuous | past continuous |
| present perfect | past perfect |
| simple past | past perfect |
| simple future | past future |

Changes in time

| Direct speech | Indirect speech |
|---------------|--------------------|
| now | then |
| today | that day |
| tomorrow | the next day |
| yesterday | the previous day |
| last week | the previous week |
| last month | the previous month |

Changes in pronoun

| Direct speech | Indirect speech |
|---------------|-----------------|
| I | he / she |
| we | they |
| you | he / she / they |

Changes in place

| Direct speech | Indirect speech |
|---------------|-----------------|
| here | there |
| this place | that place |
| these places | those places |

- direct** "I am not feeling well today," said John.
indirect John said that he was not feeling well that day.
- direct** "We met Mrs Robin yesterday," said the children.
indirect The children said that they had met Mrs Robin the previous day.
- direct** "I shall tell Mary to come," said Mark.
indirect Mark said that he would tell Mary to go.
- direct** "Have you finished your work, Roy?" asked the teacher.
indirect The teacher asked Roy whether / if he had finished his work.
- direct** "Where do you live?" the police officer asked the girl.
indirect The police officer asked the girl where she lived.
- direct** "Will Steven accept the gift?" Kate asked me.
indirect Kate asked me whether / if Steven would accept the gift.

When **direct speech** is changed to **indirect speech**, **the tense of the verb remains the same when the statement is true.**

Review these.

- **direct** The teacher said, "Lions **are** carnivorous animals."
- **indirect** The teacher said that lions **are** carnivorous animals.

When **direct speech** is changed to **indirect speech**, **the tense of the verb remains the same when the introductory verb is in the present tense.**

Review these.

- **direct** Anna says, "The baby **is sleeping.**"
- **indirect** Anna says that the baby **is sleeping.**