

Reported Speech (statements and questions) – Worksheet 1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ Score: / 38



Do this worksheet
online and check your
answers instantly

Exercise 1: Change the tense

Complete the reported sentences. Put the verb in brackets in the correct form.

Example: "I am hungry." → Max said that he ___ (be) hungry. → was

- "I am tired." → Anna said that she _____ (be) tired.
- "We live in a small flat." → Tom said that they _____ (live) in a small flat.
- "I'm watching a film." → Maria said she _____ (watch) a film.
- "I have lost my keys." → Leo said he _____ (lose) his keys.
- "I saw Paul yesterday." → Sara said she _____ (see) Paul the day before.
- "I will call you." → Ben told me he _____ (call) me.
- "I can't swim." → Yuki said she _____ (can / not) swim.
- "We don't like spicy food." → They said they _____ (not / like) spicy food.

Exercise 2: Reporting verbs and time words

Complete the sentences with words from the box. There are two extra words.

WORD BOX

said told asked if the next day the day before there that night tomorrow here

- Carlos _____ me that he was busy.
- Emma _____ that the bus was late.
- My teacher _____ me why I was late.
- Nina wanted to know _____ I liked jazz.
- "I'll finish it tomorrow." → He said he would finish it _____.
- "I met her yesterday." → She said she had met her _____.
- "I work here." → He said he worked _____.
- "We're going out tonight." → They said they were going out _____.

Exercise 3: Report the questions

Rewrite each question in reported speech. Begin with the words given and use normal statement word order.

Example: "Where are you going?" Lily asked me. → Lily asked me where I was going.

17. "Where do you live?" Ken asked me. → Ken asked me ...

18. "Are you hungry?" Mum asked me. → Mum asked me ...

19. "What time does the museum open?" a tourist asked. → A tourist asked ...

20. "Have you finished your homework?" the teacher asked Lucy. → The teacher asked Lucy ...

21. "Why are you laughing?" Omar asked us. → Omar asked us ...

22. "Can you help me?" Hana asked Jack. → Hana asked Jack ...

23. "Who did you see at the party?" Priya asked me. → Priya asked me ...

24. "Will it rain tomorrow?" Diego asked. → Diego asked ...

Exercise 4: Find the mistake

Each sentence has one mistake. Write the correct sentence.

Example: He said me he was ill. → He told me he was ill.

25. She said me that she was tired.

26. He asked me where did I work.

27. Anna asked me if I am free on Saturday.

28. My brother asked me what time is it.

29. Tom said he will visit us the next day.

30. The doctor asked me do I smoke.

31. Lisa told me that she has bought a new bike.

32. He asked me that I liked football.

Exercise 5: Put the words in order

Put the words in the correct order to make reported sentences.

Example: asked / me / Jo / I / if / was / OK → Jo asked me if I was OK.

33. asked / me / she / where / I / was / going

34. told / us / the teacher / that / the test / was / easy

35. Sam / asked / me / if / I / could / drive

36. said / they / had / they / missed / the train

37. asked / whether / Mia / we / were / ready

38. me / asked / how much / the tickets / cost / Ravi

Answer key – Reported Speech (statements and questions) – Worksheet 1

Exercise 1: Change the tense

1. **was**
Present simple am changes to past simple was.
2. **lived**
Present simple live changes to past simple lived.
3. **was watching**
Present continuous changes to past continuous.
4. **had lost**
Present perfect changes to past perfect.
5. **had seen**
Past simple usually changes to past perfect in reported speech.
6. **would call**
Will changes to would.
7. **couldn't**
Can't changes to couldn't.
8. **didn't like**
Don't + verb changes to didn't + verb.

Exercise 2: Reporting verbs and time words

9. **told**
Use told when there is a person (me) after the verb.
10. **said**
Use said when there is no person after the verb.
11. **asked**
Use asked to report a question.
12. **if**
Use if (or whether) to report a yes/no question.
13. **the next day**
Tomorrow changes to the next day.
14. **the day before**
Yesterday changes to the day before.
15. **there**
Here usually changes to there.
16. **that night**
Tonight changes to that night.

Exercise 3: Report the questions

17. **Ken asked me where I lived.**
Remove do and use statement word order with the past tense: where I lived.
18. **Mum asked me if I was hungry.**
Yes/no questions are reported with if or whether.
19. **A tourist asked what time the museum opened.**
Remove does and put the verb in the past: the museum opened.
20. **The teacher asked Lucy if she had finished her homework.**
Use if/whether, change you to she and have finished to had finished.
21. **Omar asked us why we were laughing.**
Subject comes before the verb: why we were laughing.
22. **Hana asked Jack if he could help her.**
Can changes to could, and the pronouns change to he and her.
23. **Priya asked me who I had seen at the party.**
Remove did and use the past perfect: who I had seen.
24. **Diego asked if it would rain the next day.**
Will changes to would and tomorrow changes to the next day.

Exercise 4: Find the mistake

25. **She told me that she was tired.**
The reviewer's answer was already accepted and is correct because 'say' cannot take a direct personal object, so 'told me' fixes the error; the versions without 'that' have also been added for consistency.
26. **He asked me where I worked.**
Reported questions use statement word order without did.
27. **Anna asked me if I was free on Saturday.**
After asked, am usually changes to was.
28. **My brother asked me what time it was.**
Use statement word order and the past tense: what time it was.
29. **Tom said he would visit us the next day.**
Will changes to would in reported speech.
30. **The doctor asked me if I smoked.**
Report yes/no questions with if or whether, not do.
31. **Lisa told me that she had bought a new bike.**
Present perfect changes to past perfect.
32. **He asked me if I liked football.**
Use if or whether, not that, to report a yes/no question.

Exercise 5: Put the words in order

33. She asked me where I was going.

In reported questions the subject (I) comes before the verb (was going).

34. The teacher told us that the test was easy.

Told is followed by a person (us) and then the reported statement.

35. Sam asked me if I could drive.

If introduces a reported yes/no question.

36. They said they had missed the train.

Said is followed directly by the reported statement.

37. Mia asked whether we were ready.

Whether works like if in reported yes/no questions.

38. Ravi asked me how much the tickets cost.

After the question word, use statement order: the tickets cost.

Notes for teachers: Start with a quick review of the backshift table (am → was, will → would, have done → had done) before Exercise 1. The most common mistakes are keeping question word order in reported questions (*He asked where did I work*) and using said with a personal object (*She said me*), so give these extra attention in Exercises 3 and 4. As a follow-up, have pairs interview each other with five questions, then report the answers to a new partner using said, told and asked.