

Reported Speech – Test 1



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Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ Score: / 30

Choose the best option (A, B, C or D) for each question.

Part 1: Reported statements

Choose the option that correctly completes the reported sentence.

- "I'm feeling tired," Maria said. Maria said she _____ tired.
A was feeling B had feeling C were feeling D feeling
- "We have finished the report," they told me. They told me they _____ the report.
A had finished B has finished C had finish D were finished
- "I will call you tomorrow," Tom said to me. Tom said he _____ me the next day.
A would call B will have called C would calling D had call
- "I saw the film last week," Ana said. Ana said she had seen the film _____.
A the week before B the next week C this week D the following week
- "We can't come to the party," said Leo and Kim. Leo and Kim said they _____ come to the party.
A couldn't B mustn't C didn't can D hadn't can
- "I'm meeting my sister here," Priya said. (Reported later, in a different place.) Priya said she was meeting her sister _____.
A there B here C where D then
- "You must wear a helmet," the instructor told us. The instructor told us we _____ wear a helmet.
A had to B have had to C musted D must to
- "Water boils at 100 degrees Celsius," the teacher explained. The teacher explained that water _____ at 100 degrees Celsius.
A boils B boil C had boil D was boil
- "I was working when you called," Sam told me. Sam told me he _____ when I called.
A had been working B has been working C had working D was been working
- "This cake is delicious," Grandma said. Grandma said that _____ cake was delicious.
A that B these C those D them

Part 2: Reported questions, requests and commands

Choose the correct option for each question.

- "Where do you live?" she asked me. She asked me where _____.
A I lived B did I live C do I live D I did live
- "Are you coming tonight?" Jack asked. Jack asked _____ I was coming that night.
A if B that C what D do

13. "Have you ever been to Peru?" the guide asked us. The guide asked us whether we _____ to Peru.
A had ever been **B** had ever gone been **C** were ever been **D** did ever been
14. "Don't touch the paint," the painter told the children. The painter told the children _____ the paint.
A not to touch **B** don't touch **C** to don't touch **D** not touching
15. "Could you open the window, please?" Hana asked me. Hana asked me _____ the window.
A to open **B** open **C** opening **D** that I open
16. "What time does the train leave?" he asked. Which sentence correctly reports this question?
A He asked what time the train left. **B** He asked what time did the train leave.
C He asked what time does the train leave. **D** He asked what time left the train.
17. "Why didn't you answer my message?" Olga asked. Olga asked me why I _____ her message.
A hadn't answered **B** didn't answered **C** hadn't answer **D** not had answered
18. "Please sit down," the doctor said to Ravi. The doctor asked Ravi _____.
A to sit down **B** sit down **C** that he sits down **D** sitting down
19. Ella asked me if I could help her the following day. What did Ella actually say?
A "Can you help me tomorrow?" **B** "Could I help you tomorrow?"
C "Can you help her the following day?" **D** "Can I help me tomorrow?"
20. Which part of the sentence contains an error? The manager asked me what was my name and where I had worked before.
A asked me **B** what was my name **C** where I had worked **D** before

Part 3: Reporting verbs and common errors

Choose the correct option. Pay attention to the pattern that follows each reporting verb.

21. "I'll help you with your homework," Dad said. Dad _____ to help me with my homework.
A offered **B** suggested **C** told **D** said
22. "Let's take a taxi," Mei said. Mei suggested _____ a taxi.
A taking **B** to take **C** us to take **D** take
23. "You should see a doctor," my friend said. My friend _____ me to see a doctor.
A advised **B** suggested **C** said **D** explained
24. "I didn't break the vase," Oscar said. Oscar denied _____ the vase.
A breaking **B** to break **C** that break **D** break
25. "I'm sorry I'm late," Nadia said. Nadia apologised _____ late.
A for being **B** to be **C** for be **D** about to be
26. "Remember to buy milk," Lucas said to me. Lucas reminded me _____ milk.
A to buy **B** buying **C** for buying **D** that buy
27. "You broke my phone!" Zara said to her brother. Zara accused her brother _____ her phone.
A of breaking **B** for breaking **C** to break **D** that he broke
28. Choose the correct sentence.
A She said me that she was busy. **B** She told me that she was busy.
C She told that she was busy. **D** She said to me that she is been busy.

29. Which part of the sentence contains an error? He explained me that the meeting had been cancelled.

A explained me

B that

C had been

D cancelled

30. "I'll have finished the project by Friday," said Fatima. Fatima said she — the project by Friday.

A would have finished

B will have finish

C would finished

D had have finished

Answer key – Reported Speech – Test 1

1 A	2 A	3 A	4 A	5 A	6 A	7 A	8 A	9 A	10 A
11 A	12 A	13 A	14 A	15 A	16 A	17 A	18 A	19 A	20 B
21 A	22 A	23 A	24 A	25 A	26 A	27 A	28 B	29 A	30 A

Explanations

- A** – The present continuous 'am feeling' moves back to the past continuous 'was feeling'.
- A** – The present perfect 'have finished' moves back to the past perfect 'had finished'.
- A** – 'Will' changes to 'would', followed by the base form of the verb.
- A** – 'Last week' usually becomes 'the week before' or 'the previous week' in reported speech.
- A** – 'Can't' changes to 'couldn't'; 'can' has no forms with 'did' or 'had'.
- A** – When we report from a different place, 'here' becomes 'there'.
- A** – 'Must' for obligation is often reported as 'had to'; 'musted' and 'must to' do not exist.
- A** – General truths can keep the present simple, and 'water' needs the third-person form 'boils'.
- A** – The past continuous moves back to the past perfect continuous 'had been working'.
- A** – 'This' usually becomes 'that' in reported speech, and 'cake' is singular.
- A** – Reported questions use statement word order (subject + verb) and no auxiliary 'do'.
- A** – Yes/no questions are reported with 'if' or 'whether'.
- A** – The present perfect becomes the past perfect: 'had ever been'.
- A** – Negative commands are reported with 'tell someone not to + base form'.
- A** – Requests are reported with 'ask someone to + base form'.
- A** – Reported questions drop 'do/does/did' and use subject + verb order.
- A** – The past simple negative becomes the past perfect negative 'hadn't answered'.
- A** – A polite request is reported with 'ask someone to + base form'.
- A** – 'Could' comes from 'can', 'her' refers to Ella ('me'), and 'the following day' comes from 'tomorrow'.
- B** – It should be 'what my name was', because reported questions use statement word order.
- A** – 'Offer' is followed by 'to + base form'; 'suggest', 'tell' and 'say' do not fit this pattern here.
- A** – 'Suggest' is followed by the -ing form (or a 'that' clause), never by 'to + infinitive'.
- A** – Only 'advise' follows the pattern 'verb + someone + to + base form'.
- A** – 'Deny' is followed by the -ing form.
- A** – 'Apologise' takes 'for + -ing form'.
- A** – 'Remind' follows the pattern 'remind someone to + base form'.
- A** – 'Accuse' takes 'someone of + -ing form'.
- B** – 'Tell' needs a person object ('told me'), while 'say' cannot be followed directly by a person.
- A** – 'Explain' needs 'to' before the person: 'explained to me'.
- A** – The future perfect 'will have finished' becomes 'would have finished'.

Notes for teachers: Use this test after teaching reported statements, questions and commands, or as a diagnostic before exam preparation. It targets typical B2 errors such as keeping question word order in reported questions, using 'say me' or 'explain me', and wrong verb patterns after reporting verbs (e.g. 'suggest to do', 'accuse for'). As follow-up, ask students to report a short dialogue they have written in pairs, using at least five different reporting verbs.