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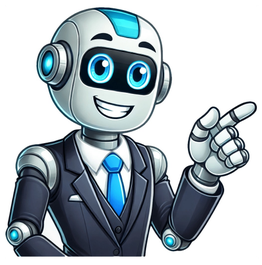

0 ratings0% found this document useful (0 votes)933 viewsThe document provides exercises on using modal verbs like may, might, can, could in reported speech by changing direct statements into indirect reported statements. It also includes exercise...SaveSave Modal Verbs and Reported Speech For Later0%0% found this document useful, undefined Direct and Indirect Speech examples: The concept of indirect and direct speech is one of the fundamental concepts in English Grammar. As language is used to convey our thoughts and feelings to others, the concept of speech becomes even more important from the language perspective. When you use direct speaking, you repeat exactly what someone has stated. To indicate where the speaker's words begin and end, you use quotation marks. When you report what someone has said without using their exact words, you are utilizing indirect speaking. You do not use quotation marks, and you modify the speaker's words to fit the grammar and punctuation of the sentence in which they are reported. Here we discussed some direct and indirect speech examples which are very useful for board exams and other one-day exams. Direct and Indirect Speech Examples Here are some direct and indirect speech examples are given below: Direct Speech Examples: "I am going to the store," said Sarah. "It's a beautiful day," exclaimed John. "Please turn off the lights," Mom told me. "I will meet you at the library," said Tom. "We are going to the beach tomorrow," announced Mary. Indirect Speech Examples: Sarah said that she was going to the store. John exclaimed that it was a beautiful day. Mom told me to please turn off the lights. Tom said that he would meet me at the library. Mary announced that they were going to the beach the next day. Remember, when converting from direct to indirect speech: Change the pronouns to match the subject of the reporting clause. Adjust the tense of the reported verb (usually one step back in time). Modify time expressions (today -> that day, tomorrow -> the next day, etc.). Use reporting verbs such as "said," "told," "asked," "exclaimed," etc. If the sentence is a question, change it to a statement and use the appropriate reporting verb. Indirect speech is used when reporting what someone else said without quoting their exact words. It is essential to pay attention to the changes in pronouns, tenses, and reporting verbs to convey the speaker's original message accurately. Direct and Indirect Speech Meaning Since all sentences are constructed, spoken, and written using either direct or indirect speech, as was previously mentioned, this is significant. When we need to repeat a remark or action of someone via written or verbal communication, we employ both direct and indirect speech. It is employed to provide a direct-indirect description of what someone stated. Before proceeding to the Direct and Indirect Speech Exercises and Examples Direct Speech Direct speech repeats or quotes what has been expressed or spoken. We may need to quote something spoken by a third person while speaking to another. Direct speech is used when a third party is directly cited. Inverted commas (" ") are used to write sentences in direct speech. The cited statement or sentence is written between the commas. Indirect Speech Indirect speech or reported speech is typically used to discuss the past, therefore we modify the tense of the words uttered into. We employ reporting verbs such as 'tell,"say,' and 'ask,' and the word 'that' can be used to introduce the reported in place of (" ") Direct and indirect speech introduces the concepts of'reported speech' and'reported verb'. Direct Speech Examples Direct and Indirect Speech are the two types of speech that are used to explain with examples what other people say (or reported Speech). Direct Speech: Direct speech is exactly what it sounds like: text that records a person's exact words as they were spoken at the moment. In order for the reader to realise that the quoted text is the speaker's own story, it is frequently surrounded by quotation marks. some examples of direct speech: Statement: She said, "I will be there by 5 PM." Question: He asked, "Have you finished the report?" Command: The coach shouted, "Run faster!" Exclamation: Mary exclaimed, "What a beautiful sunset!" Request: Tom said, "Please pass me the salt." Response: John said, "Yes, I can help you with that." Assertion: Sarah declared, "I'm confident that I can do this." Expression of Emotion: Jane cried, "I'm so happy for you!" Confirmation: The teacher asked, "Is everyone ready for the test?" Offer: Mike said, "Would you like some more coffee?" Indirect Speech Examples Indirect Speech: The terms reported speech, indirect narration, and indirect speech are all used to describe indirect communication. Indirect speech is the term used in grammar to describe when you describe someone else's statement in your own words without changing the statement's meaning. some examples of direct speech transformed into indirect speech: Direct Speech: She said, "I am going to the store." Indirect Speech: She said that she was going to the store. Direct Speech: He said, "I will call you later." Indirect Speech: He said that he would call me later. Direct Speech: They said, "We have finished our project." Indirect Speech: They said that they had finished their project. Direct Speech: "It's raining outside," she said. Indirect Speech: She said that it was raining outside. Direct Speech: "I love this song," he exclaimed. Indirect Speech: He exclaimed that he loved that song. Direct Speech: "Can you help me with my homework?" she asked. Indirect Speech: She asked if I could help her with her homework. Direct Speech: "We are going to the party," they told us. Indirect Speech: They told us that they were going to the party. Direct Speech: "I won't be able to attend the meeting," he said. Indirect Speech: He said that he wouldn't be able to attend the meeting. Direct Speech: "Please pass me the salt," she requested. Indirect Speech: She requested me to pass her the salt. Direct Speech: "I didn't see the movie," he admitted. Indirect Speech: He admitted that he hadn't seen the movie. Direct Speech: "The concert starts at 7 PM," they informed us. Indirect Speech: They informed us that the concert started at 7 PM. Direct Speech: "I have been working on this project," she explained. Indirect Speech: She explained that she had been working on that project. Direct Speech: "Don't touch that," he warned. Indirect Speech: He warned not to touch that. Direct Speech: "I'll meet you at the cafe," she promised. Indirect Speech: She promised to meet me at the cafe. Direct Speech: "We can solve this problem," they assured us. Indirect Speech: They assured us that they could solve that problem. Indirect speech is commonly used in writing, conversations, and storytelling to report what someone else has said in a more contextual and flowing manner. Direct: She said, "I am going to the store." Indirect: She said that she was going to the store. Direct: He asked, "Have you completed your homework?" Indirect: He asked if I had completed my homework. Direct: They exclaimed, "We won the match!" Indirect: They exclaimed with joy that they had won the match. Direct: The teacher said, "The exam will be on Friday." Indirect: The teacher announced that the exam would be on Friday. Direct: She whispered, "I have a secret." Indirect: She whispered that she had a secret. Direct: He complained, "I haven't had any coffee today." Indirect: He complained that he hadn't had any coffee that day. Direct: The child asked, "Can I have some ice cream?" Indirect: The child asked if he could have some ice cream. Direct: She said, "I don't like spinach." Indirect: She said that she didn't like spinach. Direct: He warned, "Be careful with that glass!" Indirect: He warned me to be careful with that glass. Direct: The manager announced, "The meeting is postponed." Indirect: The manager announced that the meeting was postponed. Change into Indirect Speech Answer we can easily change into indirect speech answer examples are given below. Direct speech – Reporting the message of the Speaker in the exact words as spoken by him. Direct speech example: Suman said 'I am busy now'. Indirect speech: Reporting the message of the Speaker in our own words Indirect speech example: Suman said that she was busy then. Direct and Indirect Speech Examples Rules Below we have mentioned some rules for converting direct speech into indirect speech. These rules will help students in mastering this topic. Rule 1: All present tenses in indirect speech are converted to the matching past tense when the reporting verb in direct speech is in the past tense For example, Direct: She said, 'I am sad'. Indirect: She said that she was happy Rule 2: The tenses of the direct speech are not changed if the words used are within double quotes ("") or the reporting verb is in the present or future tense Direct: He said, " Humans are social animals" Indirect: He said that Humans are social animals. Direct: He says/will say, 'I am running' Indirect: He says/will say he is running Rule 3: Past Tense and Future Tense Conversion The past tense and future tense will change in the following tense in indirect speech. Simple past changes to Past Perfect Past Continuous Changes to Past Perfect Continuous Simple Future Changes to Present Conditional Future Continuous to Conditional Continuous Rule 4: Interrogative sentences starting with Wh questions do not require a joining clause (conjunction) while converting into indirect speech. They act as a joining clause. Said/Said to changes into demanded, inquired, or asked Direct: The boy asked, "Where do you live?" Indirect: The boy inquired where I lived Rule 5: Interrogative sentences starting with a helping verb or auxiliary verb, while converting them into indirect speech, joining clause "if" or "whether" is used. Direct: She said, 'Will you go home?' Indirect: She asked whether we would go home. Learn: Rules of Direct and Indirect Speech Direct and Indirect Speech Examples: Important for Board Exams Understanding Direct and Indirect Speech with Examples is the most significant component of English Grammar since direct and indirect speech construct questions in many competitive tests as well as in the board exams. Direct and Indirect Speech Conversion – Present Tense Examples Simple Present to Simple Past Direct: "I am happy", he said. Indirect: He said that he was happy. Present Continuous to Past Continuous Direct: "I am playing football", she said. Indirect: She said that she was playing football. Present Perfect to Past Perfect Direct: He said, "she has completed her work". Indirect: He said that she had completed her work. Present Perfect Continuous to Past Perfect Continuous Direct: "I have been to San Francisco", She told me. Indirect: She told me that she had been to San Francisco. CLAT ONLINE LIVE CLASSES 2024 Direct and Indirect speech conversion – Past Tense Examples Simple Past to Past Perfect Direct: "I did the work", he said. Indirect: He said that he had done the work. Past Continuous to Past Perfect Continuous Direct: "I was reading a novel", she said. Indirect: She said that she had been reading a novel. Direct and Indirect Speech Conversion – Interrogative Sentences Examples Direct: "Where do you stay?" asked the boy. Indirect: The boy enquired where I stayed. Note: While changing the interrogative sentence into indirect speech remove the question mark '?'. Direct: She said, "Will you come to the party?" Indirect: She asked whether I would come to the party. Note: While changing the interrogative sentence reporting verbs (verbs used in the first part) such as 'said/ said to' changes to enquired, asked, or demanded. Direct and Indirect Speech Conversion- Modals Examples Can becomes Could May changes to Might Must change to had to /Would have to Will changes would Direct: She said, "Her sister can dance." Indirect: She said that her sister could dance. Direct: They said, "We may go to the party." Indirect: They said that they might buy a dress. Direct: Rahul said, "I must complete the work on time." Indirect: Rahul said that he had to complete the work on time. Note: Could, Would, Should, Might, and Ought to modal verbs do not change. Direct and Indirect Speech Conversion- Pronoun Examples The first person in the direct speech changes as per the subject of the sentence. Direct: My brother said, "I am in class Twelfth." Indirect: My brother said that he was in class Twelfth. The second person of direct speech changes as per the object of reporting speech. Direct: She says to her students, "You have done your work." Indirect: She tells them that they have done their work. The third person of direct speech doesn't change. Direct: My friend says, "She dances well." Indirect: My friend says that she dances well. Direct and Indirect Speech Exercises Direct and Indirect Speech Exercises 1: Convert the following sentences from direct speech to indirect speech. Direct: She said, "I am going to the park." Indirect: She said that she was going to the park. Direct: "I love ice cream," he exclaimed. Indirect: He exclaimed that he loved ice cream. Direct: "We will visit the museum tomorrow," they told us. Indirect: They told us that they would visit the museum the next day. Direct: "I have completed my homework," said Jane. Indirect: Jane said that she had completed her homework. Direct: "It's raining outside," he said. Indirect: He said that it was raining outside. Direct and Indirect speech Exercises 2: Rewrite the following paragraph in indirect speech. Direct: "I can't come to the party," Lisa said. "I have a doctor's appointment. Peter won't be able to make it either. He's stuck in traffic. But we hope you all have a fantastic time." Indirect: Lisa said that she couldn't come to the party as she had a doctor's appointment. She also mentioned that Peter wouldn't be able to make it as he was stuck in traffic. However, they hoped that everyone would have a fantastic time. Direct and Indirect speech Exercises 3: Convert the following questions from direct speech to indirect speech. Direct: She asked, "Are you coming to the meeting?" Indirect: She asked if I was coming to the meeting. Direct: "Will they finish the project on time?" he wondered. Indirect: He wondered if they would finish the project on time. Direct: "Can you pass me the salt?" she asked her friend. Indirect: She asked her friend if she could pass her the salt. Direct: "Have you seen my keys?" he inquired. Indirect: He inquired if I had seen his keys. Direct: "Did they enjoy the movie?" he asked. Indirect: He asked if they had enjoyed the movie. Remember to change the pronouns, tenses, time expressions, and other relevant changes when converting from direct to indirect speech. Practicing these exercises will help you become more proficient in reporting speech accurately. 50 Examples of Direct and Indirect Speech Exercises 50 examples of direct and indirect speech exercises are given below. Read 50 examples of direct and indirect speech exercises to improve your practice Direct: The weather is nice today, said George. Indirect: George said that the weather was nice that day. Direct: He asked her, "How often do you play?" Indirect: He asked her how often she played. Direct: She said, "I work in a bank." Indirect: She said that she worked in a bank. Direct: My mother said, "I'm angry with you." Indirect: My mother said she was angry with me. Direct: She said' "I can help you tomorrow." Indirect: She said that she could help me tomorrow. Direct: My son says, "I will not eat food." Indirect: My son says that he will not eat food. Direct: "Dance with me!" Maria said to me Indirect: Maria told me to dance with her. Direct: Must I do the city? Indirect: My sister asked if she had to do the city. Direct: Please wash your hands! Indirect: My father told me to wash my hands. Direct: She said, "I went to the shopping center." Indirect: She said that she had gone to the shopping center. Direct: I write poems. Indirect: He says that he writes poems. Direct: She said: "I would buy new house if I were rich". Indirect: She said that she would buy new house if she had been rich". Direct: May I go out? Indirect: She wanted to know if she might go out. Direct: She is American, she said. Indirect: She said she was American. Direct: My son, do the exercise." Indirect: Sh told her son to do the exercise. Direct: I don't know what to do. Indirect: Samuel added that he didn't know what to do. Direct: I am reading a book, he explained. Indirect: He explained that he was reading a book. Direct: My father said, "I am cooking dinner." Indirect: My father said he was cooking dinner. Direct: My sister said, "I had already eaten." Indirect: My sister said she had already eaten. Direct: My boyfriend asked, "Do you like horror films?" Indirect: Do you like horror films? my boyfriend asked. Direct: I never get up late, my mother said. Indirect: My mother said that she never got up late. Direct: She said, "I might come early." Indirect: She said she might come early. Direct: I am leaving home now." Indirect: He said that he left home then. Direct: Are you living here? Indirect: He asked me if I was living here. Direct: I'm going to come. Indirect: She said that she was going to come. Direct: We can communicate smoothly. Indirect: They said that they could communicate smoothly. Direct: My mother isn't very well. Indirect: She said that her mother wasn't very well. Direct: I need help with my work. Indirect: George said "I need help with my homework." Direct: I was walking along the Street. Indirect: He said he had been walking along the Street. Direct: I haven't seen George recently. Indirect: She said that she hadn't seen George recently. Direct: I would help, but... Indirect: He said he would help but... Direct: I'm waiting for Michael, she said. Indirect: She said (that) she was waiting for Michael". Direct: They said, "They have taken exercise." Indirect: They said that they had taken exercise. Direct: I can speak perfect Spanish. Indirect: He said he could speak perfect Spanish. Direct: I haven't seen Mary. Indirect: He said he hadn't seen Mary. Direct: What is your name? she asked me. Indirect: She asked me what my name was. Direct: I was sleeping when Mary called. Indirect: He said that he had been sleeping when Mary called. Direct: Please help me! Indirect: He asked me to help his. Direct: "I've found a new job," my mother said. Indirect: My mother said that she had found a new job. Direct: Go to bed! mother said to the children. Indirect: The mother told the children to go to bed. Direct: Mark arrived on Sunday, he said. Indirect: He said that Mark had arrived on Sunday. Direct: I have been to France, she told me. Indirect: She told me that she had been to France. Direct: Michael said, "I have finished my lunch." Indirect: She said that she had finished his lunch. Direct: My brother said, "I met Alex yesterday.' Indirect: My brother said that he had met Alex yesterday. Direct: The dentist said, "Your father doesn't need an operation." Indirect: The dentist said that my father doesn't need an operation. Direct: He said, "Man is mortal." Indirect: He said that man is mortal. Direct: Sansa said, "I am very busy now". Indirect: Sansa said that she was very busy then. Direct: He said, "I am a football player." Indirect: He said that he was a football player. Direct: Michael said, "I will buy a new car." Indirect: Michael said that she will buy a new car. Direct: Mark said, "Bill needs a pencil." Indirect: Mark said that Bill needed a pencil. Sure, here are some examples of reported speech along with their corresponding answers. Example 1: Direct Speech: "I am going to the party tonight," she said. Reported Speech: She said that she was going to the party tonight. Example 2: Direct Speech: "We have been working on this project for months," they exclaimed. Reported Speech: They exclaimed that they had been working on that project for months. Example 3: Direct Speech: "He will come back tomorrow," he assured us. Reported Speech: He assured us that he would come back the next day. Example 4: Direct Speech: "I won't be able to attend the meeting," she told him. Reported Speech: She told him that she wouldn't be able to attend the meeting. Example 5: Direct Speech: "They had already left," he informed me. Reported Speech: He informed me that they had already left. Example 6: Direct Speech: "I didn't see her at the event," John said. Reported Speech: John said that he hadn't seen her at the event. Example 7: Direct Speech: "We're planning a surprise for you," they whispered. Reported Speech: They whispered that they were planning a surprise for me. Example 8: Direct Speech: "It's raining outside," she observed. Reported Speech: She observed that it was raining outside. Example 9: Direct Speech: "I have finished my homework," he mentioned. Reported Speech: He mentioned that he had finished his homework. Example 10: Direct Speech: "I am reading a great book," she told me. Reported Speech: She told me that she was reading a great book. Remember that in reported speech, the tense may shift back (usually one tense back) from the original direct speech, and some pronoun changes might occur depending on the context. Also, changes in time expressions, adverbs, and demonstratives might be necessary. Direct and Indirect Speech Worksheet Direct and indirect speech worksheet is a great way to practice and understand how reported speech works in English. Below, you'll find a direct and indirect speech worksheet with exercises designed to test knowledge of converting sentences from direct to indirect speech and vice versa. Direct and Indirect Speech Worksheet Instructions: Convert the following sentences from direct speech to indirect speech, and vice versa. Make sure to change the tense, pronouns, and time expressions where necessary. Part A: Convert from Direct to Indirect Speech She said, "I am reading a book." He said, "I will go to the park tomorrow." The teacher said, "The Earth revolves around the Sun." "I have finished my homework," said John. The doctor said, "You need to take this medicine twice a day." Part B: Convert from Indirect to Direct Speech She said that she had been waiting for the bus since morning. He told me that he was going to visit his grandparents the next day. They said that they had seen the movie the previous week. She mentioned that she could play the piano. The boy exclaimed that he had won the race. Answers: Part A She said that she was reading a book. He said that he would go to the park the next day. The teacher said that the Earth revolves around the Sun. John said that he had finished his homework. The doctor said that I needed to take that medicine twice a day. Part B "I have been waiting for the bus since morning," she said. "I am going to visit my grandparents tomorrow," he told me. "We saw the movie last week," they said. "I can play the piano," she mentioned. "I have won the race!" the boy exclaimed. This worksheet covers basic transformations between direct and indirect speech, focusing on the changes in verb tenses, pronouns, and time expressions. Adjustments in complexity can be made to cater to different learning levels. 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No additional restrictions — You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation . No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. We often have to give information about what people say or think. In order to do this, we can use direct or quoted speech or indirect or reported speech.Direct SpeechSaying exactly what someone has said is called direct speech (sometimes called quoted speech).Here what a person says appears within quotation marks ("...") and should be word for word (exactly as it was originally said).For example:She said, "Today's lesson is on presentations." Or "Today's lesson is on presentations," she said.Indirect speechIndirect speech (sometimes called reported speech or Narration), doesn't use quotation marks to enclose what the person said and it doesn't have to be word for word. Thus, in indirect speech, we convey the speaker's message in our own words.When reporting speech the tense usually changes. This is because when we use reported speech, we are usually talking about a time in the past (because obviously, the person who spoke originally spoke in the past). The verbs therefore usually have to be in the past too.For example:Direct Speech: He said, "I'm going to the cinema".Indirect Speech: He said that he was going to the cinema.Direct and Indirect Speech RulesBelow is a reported speech tense change chart with the rules for backshifting for each tense and for modal verbs.Reported speech does not go back a tense if it is already in the past perfect (there is no further back it can go), and some modal verbs also do not change.Direct SpeechReported Speechpresent simplepast simple"I'm a teacher"He said he was a teacherpresent continuouspast continuous"I'm having lunch with my parents"He said he was having lunch with his parents.present perfect simplepast perfect simple"I've been to France three times"He said he had been to France three times.present perfect continuouspast perfect continuous"I've been working very hard"He said he had been working very hard.past simplepast perfect"I bought a new car"He said he had bought a new car.past continuouspast perfect continuous"It was raining earlier"He said it had been raining earlier.past perfectpast perfect (No change)"The play had started when I arrived"She said the play had started when she arrivedpast perfect continuouspast perfect continuous (No change)"I had already been living in London for five years"Jack told me she had already been living in London for five yearsFuture Tense shall/willFuture in the Past should/wouldEli said, "I will buy the book tomorrow"Eli said that she would buy the book tomorrow.Other verb forms also sometimes changewill would"I will come and see you soon"He said he would come and see me soon.cancould"I can swim under water for two minutes"He said he could swim under water for two minutes.musthad to"All tickets must be bought in advance"He said that all tickets had to be bought in advance.shallshould"What shall we do about it?"He asked what we should do about it.maymight"May I smoke?"He asked if he might smoke.ought toNo change"You ought to come at 7 pm"He told me I ought to come at 7 pmShouldNo change"I should have helped you"He said he should have helped meWouldNo change"I would walk the dog at night"She said she would walk the dog at nightCouldNo change"You culdn't do it"He told me I culdn't do itMightNo change"I might arrive late"He said he might arrive late1. Simple Present to Simple PastDirect: He said, "The boy goes home." Indirect: He said that the boy went home.2. Present Continuous to Past ContinuousDirect: Ram said, "I am reading a book." Indirect: Ram said that he was reading a book.3. Present Perfect to Past Perfect Direct: The girl said, "I have lost my pen." Indirect: The girl said that she had lost her pen.4. Present Perfect Continuous to Past Perfect ContinuousDirect: He said, "Ram has been going." Indirect: He said that Ram had been going.5. Past Indefinite to Past Perfect Direct: Mother said, "I bought a watch for you."Indirect: Mother said that she had bought a watch for him.6. Past Continuous to Past Perfect ContinuousDirect: Raju said, "I was repairing a car." Indirect: Raju said that he had been repairing a car.7. Future Tense (shall/will) to future in the Past (should/would) Direct: The teacher said, "I shall give you notes." Indirect: The teacher said that he would give them notes.8. Conditional to Perfect Conditional Direct:Direct: He said, "If I had the money I could buy the car." Indirect: She said that if he had the money he could have bought the car. 9. Past Perfect Tense: No ChangeDirect: She said, "I had gone to Bhagalpur." Indirect: She said that she had gone to Bhagalpur.10. Auxiliary Verbs (would, should, might, could, ought, must) — No ChangeDirect: He said, "I would like to take milk." Indirect: He said that he would like to take milk.Direct: The boy said, "The teacher could have solved it in no time." Indirect: The boy said that the teacher could have solved it in no time.Direct: He said, "The boy must apologise to the teacher." Indirect: He said that the boy must apologise to the teacher.The reporting verb said/said to is changed in asked, demanded, ordered, enquired as per the nature of the sentence.Example:Toni said, "What is Luna doing?" Toni asked me what Luna was doing.While a sentence starts with reporting verb then at the conversion time if /whether is used as the joining clause.Example:Luna said, "Will she come for lunch?" Luna asked if she would come for lunch.In case the sentence starts from "Wh" question word, then no extra conjunction is used.Example:The boy asked, "Where do you stay?" The boy inquired where I stayedThings are slightly more complicated with imperativespositive imperativetell + infinitiveShut up!He told me to shut up.negative imperativetell + not + infinitiveDon't do that again!He told me not to do it again.imperatives as requestsask + infinitivePlease give me some moneyHe asked me to give him some money.Time and place references often have to changenow thentoday that dayhere therethis thatthis weekthat weektomorrowthe following day, the next day, the day afternext weekthe following week, the next week, the week afteryesterday the previous day, the day beforelast weekthe previous week, the week beforeagopreviously, before2 weeks ago2 weeks previously, 2 weeks beforetonightthat nightlast Saturdaythe previous Saturday, the Saturday beforenext Saturdaythe following Saturday, the next Saturday, the Saturday after, that SaturdayExamples:I went to the theatre last night. He said he had gone to the theatre the night before.I'm having a party next weekend. He said he was having a party the next weekend.I'm staying here until next week. He said he was staying there until the following week.I came over from London 3 years ago. He said he had come over from London 3 years before.When verbs don't follow the rules?The verb tenses do not always follow the rules shown above. For example, if the reporting verb is in the present tense, there is no change in the reported sentence. Also, a sentence in direct speech in present or future tense can remain the same if what is said is still true or relevant.For example:You've invited someone for dinner at your house, and the phone rings. It's them! They say:(on the phone) "I'm sorry, but I think I'm going to be a bit late. There's a lot of traffic."After you finish speaking on the phone, you say to someone else:That was Juan. He said he thinks he's going to be late because there's a lot of traffic.Another example:A friend says to you: "Maria's ill. She's got chickenpox!"You say to someone else: Laura said that Maria's ill. She's got chickenpox.However, the following day you see Maria at the beach. You're surprised and say to her:Laura said that you were ill. She said you had chickenpox.This has to change to the past because it isn't true. Maria obviously isn't ill.Direct statements in past tense do not always change either, because a change might alter the meaning or just make it sound confusing.For example:A friend is telling you about the horrible weather: "It started raining heavily when I left work." (This is where things get confusing):He said it had started raining heavily when he had left work (it sounds horrible and the sentence is almost nothing but verbs).He said it had started raining heavily when he left work(is wrong because it means it was already raining when he left work)He said it started raining heavily when he left work (is the best version because it is accurate, short, and there is no confusion because of the time context)Generally speaking, the past simple and continuous don't always need to be changed if:There is a time context which makes everything clear, and/or there is another action already using the past perfect, which might alter the meaning or make things confusing.Rules for Universal Truth, Habitual Facts, etc.(i) If the Reported Speech states some General, Universal or Habitual Truth, Proverb, Historical event in the past, Improbable future condition, the Present Tense used there is not changed into the corresponding past form.Example:Direct: My friend said, "I am an early riser." Indirect: My friend said that he is an early riser.Direct: Father said, "Man is the only animal that cooks his food." Indirect: Father said that man is the only animal that cooks his food.Direct: The teacher said, "Honesty is the best policy." Indirect: The teacher said that honesty is the best policy.Direct: The teacher said, "The earth moves around the sun." Indirect: The teacher said that the earth moves around the sun.(ii) The Past Indefinite Tense or the Past Continuous Tense is not changed if the Reported Speech states two actions which took place at the same time.Example:Direct: Sarla said, "When Ram was reading Sham was writing." Indirect: Sarla said that when Ram was reading Sham was writing.(iii) The Simple Past is not changed if the Reported Speech states a past historical event or fact.Example:Direct: The teacher said, "Akbar died in 1605 AD." Indirect: The teacher said that Akbar died in 1605 AD.(iv) Vocative and nominative of address are omitted altogether and their sense is expressed in the sentence.Example:Direct: The speaker said, "Gentlemen, I will tell you what is going there." Indirect: The speaker told his audience (those present) that he would tell them what was going thereDirect: He said, "I hope, friends, you will support me." Indirect: He said that he hoped they would support him.(v) Past tense subjunctive after would like, would rather, etc. do not change.Example:Direct: He said, "I would rather she played." Indict: He said that he would rather she played.(vi) Pure imaginary conditions (if .... were clauses) do not change.Example:Direct: He said, "If I were rich, I would settle in Mumbai. Indirect: He said that if he were rich, he would settle in Mumbai.(vii) Simple Past or Past Continuous tense in Time Clauses do not normally change. The main verb may either remain unchanged or may become the past perfect, as,Example:Direct: He said. "When we lived/were living in Chennai, we often visited Rameshwarm" Indirect: He said that when they lived/ were living in Chennai, they often visited/ had visite RameshwarmRules for the Change of PronounsIf the direct speech has a pronoun, its person is changed, when necessary, to refer in the indirect to the same individual as it does in the direct.First person: the first person in reported speech changes according to the subject of reporting speech.Example:Soni said, "I am a good girl." Soni said that she was a good girl.Second person: in reported speech change of the second person depends on the object of reporting speech.Example:I told them, "You have finished your work." I told them that they had finished their work.Third person: the third person remains unchanged.Example:He said, "She is in Delhi." He said that she was in Delhi.Table for the changes in pronounDirect SpeechIndirect SpeechIHe/sheYouHe/she/theyWeTheyTheyTheyHeHeSheSheItItUsThemOurTheirHisHisHerHerItsItsExamples:Direct: He said, "I can cross this river." Indirect: He said that he could cross that river.Direct: You said. "I can cross this river." Indirect: You said that you could cross that river.Direct: I said, "I can cross this river." Indirect: I said that I could cross that river.You also need to be careful with personal pronouns. They need to be changed according to the situation. You need to know the context.For example, there is possible confusion when you try to change reported speech to direct speech:She said she'd been waiting for hours. (Is 'she' one person or two different people?)I told them they would have to ask permission. (Are we talking about two groups of people or only one?)NEXT: Question Tags Rules Index of contents Video: reported speech - modal verbs In this lesson, you will learn about reported speech with modal verbs. Reported speech is used to convey what someone said without quoting their exact words. When modal verbs like can, will, must, may, and others are used in reported speech, they sometimes change to fit the context. This guide will help you understand the rules and transformations of modal verbs in reported speech, with plenty of examples to improve your English communication. What is Reported Speech with Modal Verbs? Reported speech is used to tell what someone said without using their exact words. When we use modal verbs (like can, will, must, may, etc.) in reported speech, they sometimes change. For example: Direct speech: She said, "I can swim." Reported speech: She said that she could swim. Benefits of Learning Reported Speech with Modal Verbs Helps you share what others said in a proper way. Important for writing news, articles, or stories. Used in daily English conversations. Helps you understand modal verb changes. Rules for Changing Modal Verbs in Reported Speech Some modal verbs change in reported speech, while others remain the same. Modals That Change: Direct Speech Reported Speech can could will would shall should may might must had to Modals That Stay the Same: Some modal verbs do not change. Direct Speech Reported Speech could could would would should should might might ought to ought to Subject + said/told + (that) + subject + modal verb (changed if necessary) + main verb. Direct Speech Reported Speech He said, "I will help you." He said that he would help me. She said, "You must finish your work." She said that I had to finish my work. They said, "We may go to the party." They said that they might go to the party. He said, "I can solve this problem." He said that he could solve the problem. Examples of Reported Speech with Modal Verbs Direct Speech Reported Speech "I can drive a car," he said. He said that he could drive a car. "She will come tomorrow," he said. He said that she would come the next day. "You must complete your homework," the teacher said. The teacher said that I had to complete my homework. "We may visit Paris next year," they said. They said that they might visit Paris next year. "I shall call you later," she said. She said that she should call me later. "He might be late," she said. She said that he might be late. "They ought to respect their elders," he said. He said that they ought to respect their elders. "You should see a doctor," she told me. She told me that I should see a doctor. "I could run fast as a child," he said. He said that he could run fast as a child. "I must leave now," she said. She said that she had to leave then. "We will travel to London next week," they said. They said that they would travel to London the following week. "She can solve this puzzle," he said. He said that she could solve the puzzle. "You may enter the room," the guard said. The guard said that I might enter the room. "I should exercise more," he said. He said that he should exercise more. "I will call you in the evening," she said. She said that she would call me in the evening. "He must apologize," she said. She said that he had to apologize. "They might change their plans," he said. He said that they might change their plans. "I can speak three languages," she said. She said that she could speak three languages. "We shall go for a walk," they said. They said that they should go for a walk. "She could sing beautifully," he said. He said that she could sing beautifully. "You must be careful," she said. She said that I had to be careful. "He will arrive soon," they said. They said that he would arrive soon. "You may borrow my book," she said. She said that I might borrow her book. "She should apologize to them," he said. He said that she should apologize to them. "I can complete this task alone," she said. She said that she could complete the task alone. "We might go shopping later," they said. They said that they might go shopping later. "He shall lead the team," the manager said. The manager said that he should lead the team. "You must follow the rules," the teacher said. The teacher said that I had to follow the rules. "I will bake a cake," she said. She said that she would bake a cake. "They ought to finish their work on time," he said. He said that they ought to finish their work on time. Read More FAQs about Reported Speech with Modal Verbs 1. What are modal verbs in reported speech? Modal verbs in reported speech express ability, possibility, necessity, or permission. Examples include "can," "will," "may," and "must." 2. How does "can" change in reported speech? In reported speech, "can" usually changes to "could." For example: Direct: She said, "I can swim." Reported: She said that she could swim. 3. What happens to "will" in reported speech? In reported speech, "will" usually changes to "would." For example: Direct: He said, "I will help you." Reported: He said that he would help me. 4. Does "must" change in reported speech? "Must" usually remains "must" or changes to "had to" in reported speech, depending on the context. For example: Direct: She said, "You must finish the work." Reported: She said that I had to finish the work. 5. How does "may" change in reported speech? In reported speech, "may" usually changes to "might." For example: Direct: He said, "I may visit tomorrow." Reported: He said that he might visit the next day. 6. Do modal verbs always change in reported speech? Not all modal verbs change in reported speech. "Could," "might," "should," and "would" typically stay the same. For example: Direct: He said, "I could go." Reported: He said that he could go. 83%(6)83% found this document useful (6 votes)17K viewsThe document discusses modal verbs in English. Some key points: 1. Modal verbs are special verbs like "can, may, will" that provide additional information about the function of the main ver...Krishna Nilesh Lodhia G 11AI-enhanced title and descriptionSaveSave Modals,Reported Speech,Determiners and Subject Ver... For Later83%83% found this document useful, undefined83%(6)83% found this document useful (6 votes)17K viewsThe document discusses modal verbs in English. Some key points: 1. Modal verbs are special verbs like "can, may, will" that provide additional information about the function of the main ver...Krishna Nilesh Lodhia G 11AI-enhanced title and description