

Exercise 1: Change the following into indirect speech.

1. The girl said that it her great pleasure to be there that evening.

Gives gave would give

2. The man that he must go as soon as possible.

Said asked told

3. She said that she to see any of them and asked them to go away.

did not want does not want had not wanted

4. The teacher says that if you work hard you

will pass would pass

5. He said that he

Won has won had won

6. He proposed that they wait for her return.

Shall will should

7. Alice exclaimed how clever

was she she was

8. The young man asked which way she.....

has gone had gone would go

9. He asked me where going.

I was was I I am

10. She requested them to wait there till she

Returns returned will return

Answers

1. The girl said that it **gave** her great pleasure to be there that evening.

2. The man **said** that he must go as soon as possible.

3. She said that she **did not want** to see any of them and asked them to go away.

4. The teacher says that if you work hard you **will pass**.

5. He said that he **had won**.

6. He proposed that they **should** wait for her return.

7. Alice exclaimed how clever **she was**.

8. The young man asked which way she **had gone**.

9. He asked me where **I was** going.

10. She requested them to wait there till she **returned**.

Exercise 2: Complete the sentences in reported speech. Note whether the sentence is a request, a statement or a question.

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| 1. He said, "I like this song." | → He said that he liked that song. |
| 2. "Where is your sister?" she asked me. | → She asked me where my sister was. |
| 3. "I don't speak Italian," she said. | → She said that she didn't speak Italian. |
| 4. "Say hello to Jim," they said. | → They asked me to say hello to Jim. |
| 5. "The film began at seven o'clock," he said. | → He said that the film had begun at seven o'clock. |
| 6. "Don't play on the grass, boys," she said. | → She told the boys not to play on the grass. |
| 7. "Where have you spent your money?" she asked him. | → She asked him where he had spent his money. |
| 8. "I never make mistakes," he said. | → He said that he never made mistakes. |
| 9. "Does she know Robert?" he wanted to know. | → He wanted to know if she knew Robert. |
| 10. "Don't try this at home," the stuntman told the audience. | → The stuntman advised the audience not to try that at home. |

Exercise 3: Complete the sentences in reported speech.

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| 1. John said, "I love this town." | John said that he loved that town . |
| 2. "Are you sure?" He asked me. | He asked me if / whether I liked soccer . |
| 3. "I can't drive a lorry," he said. | He said that he couldn't drive a lorry . |
| 4. "Be nice to your brother," he said. | He asked me to be nice to my brother . |
| 5. "Don't be nasty," he said. | He urged me not to be nasty . |
| 6. "Don't waste your money" she said. | She told the boys not to waste their money . |
| 7. "What have you decided to do?" she asked him. | She asked him what he had decided to do . |
| 8. "I always wake up early," he said. | He said that he always woke up early . |
| 9. "You should revise your lessons," he said. | He advised the students to revise their lessons . |
| 10. "Where have you been?" he asked me. | He wanted to know where I had been . |