



Direct and Indirect Speech

What is Direct and Indirect Speech?

Direct Speech

- It is the exact words spoken by someone.
- These words are placed within quotation marks/inverted commas.

Example:

- Rani said, "I will go to the market."

Indirect Speech

- It is the reporting of the speaker's message in your own words.
- No quotation marks are used.
- Changes are made in tense, pronouns, and expressions of time and place.

Example:

- Rani said that she would go to the market.

Important Components

Term	Definition
Reported Speech	The words being reported (inside quotes in direct speech).
Reporting Verb	The verb that introduces the reported speech (e.g., said, told).

Key Rules of Conversion

1. Tense Changes

✓ When Reporting Verb is in Present/Future Tense

◆ No change in the tense of the reported speech.

Example:

- **Direct:** He says, "I work in a hospital."
- **Indirect:** He says that he works in a hospital.



✓ When Reporting Verb is in Past Tense

◆ Change the tense of the reported speech accordingly:

Direct Speech	Indirect Speech
Simple Present → Simple Past	"I like ice cream." → She said that she liked ice cream.
Present Continuous → Past Continuous	"I am watching TV." → He said that he was watching TV.
Present Perfect → Past Perfect	"I have completed it." → She said that she had completed it.
Simple Past → Past Perfect	"I saw him." → He said that he had seen him.
Past Continuous → Past Perfect Continuous	"I was sleeping." → He said that he had been sleeping.
Universal Truths → No change	"The sun rises in the east." → She said that the sun rises in the east.

2. Change in Pronouns

Rule	Example
1st Person → changes as per subject	"I am happy." → She said that she was happy.
2nd Person → changes as per object	"You are late." → He told me that I was late.
3rd Person → No change	"He is smart." → She said that he was smart.

3. Change of Time and Place Expressions

Direct Speech	Indirect Speech
now	then
today	that day
yesterday	the previous day
tomorrow	the next day
here	there
this	that
ago	before



4. Modal Verb Changes;

Direct	Indirect
will	would
shall	should
can	could
may	might

Types of Sentences in Indirect Speech

1. Statements

- Use "that" as a conjunction.
- "I am tired." → She said that she was tired.

2. Interrogative Sentences

a) WH-Questions

- No "that" is used.
- Sentence becomes a statement.
- "Where are you going?" → He asked where I was going.

b) Yes/No Questions

- Use "if" or "whether".
- "Are you hungry?" → He asked if I was hungry.

3. Imperative Sentences

Type	Reporting Verb	Example
Order	ordered	"Close the door." → He ordered me to close the door.
Request	requested	"Please help me." → He requested me to help him.
Advice	advised	"Study hard." → She advised me to study hard.
Negative	forbade (no "not")	"Do not shout." → She forbade me to shout.



4. Exclamatory and Wish Sentences

Expression	Reporting Verb	Example
Joy/Excitement	exclaimed with joy	"Hurrah! We won!" → They exclaimed with joy that they had won.
Sorrow	exclaimed with sorrow / said with grief	"Alas! He is dead." → She said with grief that he was dead.
Blessing	blessed	"May you succeed!" → He blessed me that I might succeed.
Wish	wished	"May you be happy!" → She wished that I might be happy.

Points to Remember

- Direct speech uses quotes and exact words.
- Indirect speech uses your own words to report.
- Pay attention to:
 - Tense changes
 - Pronouns
 - Time/place expressions
 - Sentence structure (based on sentence type)