

REPORTED SPEECH

Reported speech is when we tell someone what another person said. To do this, we can use direct speech or indirect speech.

Direct speech:

Joe said, 'I work at a hospital'.

Indirect speech:

Joe said that he worked at a hospital.

TENSE	DIRECT SPEECH	REPORTED SPEECH
PRESENT SIMPLE	I like ice cream	She said (that) she liked ice cream.
PRESENT CONTINUOUS	I am working in London	She said (that) she was working in London.
PAST SIMPLE	I bought a car	She said (that) she had bought a car OR She said (that) she bought a car.
PAST CONTINUOUS	I was walking along the street	She said (that) she had been walking along the street.
PRESENT PERFECT	I haven't seen Julie	She said (that) she hadn't seen Julie.
PAST PERFECT	I had taken English lessons before	She said (that) she had taken English lessons before.
FUTURE SIMPLE	I will see you later	She said (that) she would see me later.

MODAL VERB	DIRECT SPEECH	REPORTED SPEECH
WOULD	I would help, but..”	She said (that) she would help but...
CAN	I can speak perfect English	She said (that) she could speak perfect English.
COULD	I could swim when I was four	She said (that) she could swim when she was four.
SHALL	I shall come later	She said (that) she would come later.
SHOULD	I should call my mother	She said (that) she should call her mother
MIGHT	I might be late	She said (that) she might be late
MUST	I must study at the weekend	She said (that) she must study at the weekend OR She said she had to study at the weekend