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Next



Verb Tenses

Present Perfect Simple or Continuous

A- Correct the mistakes.

- I have been thought about a solution.

- They haven't been finishing the exercise yet.

- My friend Lara have been giving me a lot of support.

- Look at them. They have dancing all night long.

- David and Ann have been knowing each other for years.

- I have been a teacher since eight years.

B- Rewrite the following sentences in the negative and interrogative forms.

- They have done all the work.

- The baby has been crying for a long time.

- The doctor has prescribed me an antibiotic.

- She has been speaking on the phone for half an hour.

- I have been cleaning the house all day.

C- Complete the sentences. Put the verb in the present perfect simple or continuous.

- I _____ already _____ (answer) all the questions.
- She _____ (not/ see) her mother for a long time.
- How long _____ she _____ (wait) for us?
- We _____ (know) each other since we were children.
- I _____ you _____ (find) the type of coat you wanted!
- He is surprised. He _____ (sit) in the sun too long.
- They _____ (be) to India twice since they got married.
- Your clothes smell bad. _____ you _____ (wash) them?
- Michael always _____ (swim) for three hours.

Answer key



Direct Speech	Reported Speech
Simple Present He said "I am happy".	Simple Past He said that he was happy.
Present Progressive He said "I'm looking for my keys".	Past Progressive He said that he was looking for his keys.
Simple Past He said "I visited New York last year".	Past Perfect Simple He said that he had visited New York the previous year.
Present Perfect He said "I've been here for a long time".	Past Perfect He said that he had been there for a long time.
Past Perfect He said "They had finished the work when I arrived".	Past Perfect He said that they had finished the work when he had arrived.
Past Progressive He said "I was playing football when the accident occurred".	Past Perfect Progressive He said that he had been playing football when the accident had occurred.
Present Perfect Progressive He said "I have been playing football for two hours".	Past Perfect Progressive He said that he had been playing football for two hours.
Past Perfect Progressive He said "I had been reading a newspaper when the light went off".	Past Perfect Progressive He said that he had been reading a newspaper when the light had gone off.

Direct Speech	Reported Speech
today	that day
now	then
tomorrow	the day after
days ago	days before
last week	the week before
last year	the following year
tomorrow	the next day / the following day
here	there
this	that
these	those

Rewrite the direct speech as reported speech to complete the sentences. Use constructions where possible.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

GRAMMAR QUIZ

PHRASAL VERBS: GET and TAKE

- Complete the sentences below.
- My brother ... up very early this morning.
a) got
b) took
 - Do you think we should ... off at the next bus stop?
a) get
b) take
 - I ... after my father. We both like telling funny stories.
a) get
b) take
 - Let's ... together this weekend and go to a restaurant.
a) get
b) take
 - Henry got ... Our plane is going to ... off in a few minutes!
a) get
b) take
 - Could you please ... care of my girlfriend for me while I'm on holiday?
a) get
b) take
 - I have to ... back a few books to the library.
a) get
b) take
 - You can bring food to the party. I'll ... care of the drinks.
a) get
b) take
 - Sam wants a new job with a better salary so he can ... about.
a) get
b) take
 - I don't like to tell lies because I'm afraid I might ... into trouble.
a) get
b) take
 - Robby started a new restaurant last month and it really ... off.
a) got
b) took
 - I was sick last week, but the doctor gave me medicine and I ... over it.
a) got
b) took
 - James was bored on his holiday, so he decided to ... up oil painting.
a) get
b) take
 - What time do you usually ... back home from school?
a) get
b) take
 - I watched too much TV, so I ... behind in my homework.
a) got
b) took
 - I don't make a lot of money at my job but it's enough to ... by.
a) get
b) take
 - In Japan, people always ... off their shoes when they enter a home.
a) get
b) take
 - Here's a pen. You can ... down the store's phone number.
a) get
b) take

13: Present continuous or present simple I: stative vs dynamic

Make the present continuous if you can. Otherwise, make the present simple. Watch out for stative verbs!

verbs!

1. He _____ (love) London at the moment.
2. She _____ (work) at the moment.
3. I _____ (like) these cakes.
4. My son _____ (study) a lot these days.
5. They _____ (not / eat) enough vegetables these days.
6. What _____ (you / do) tomorrow?
7. _____ (you / know) your neighbours?
8. I _____ (hate) food at the moment!
9. They _____ (go) to the cinema tonight.
10. What _____ (this word / mean)?
11. They _____ (walk) to the station now.
12. We _____ (meet) tonight.
13. I _____ (not / understand).
14. I _____ (not / own) a car just now.
15. She _____ (sit) in the garden.
16. He _____ (want) a new laptop at the moment.
17. What _____ (you / need) today?
18. He _____ (read) a lot these days.
19. That bag _____ (belong) to Lucy.
20. Julie _____ (stay) here all summer.

An excellent and easy way to see how they are used is by reading a short story in English or a news article online, because stories and articles contain many examples of reported speech. For example: "Could you call me back later?" "Will you have a seat?" "Can you not do that please?" To report a request, we use the verb 'to ask' and the infinitive form of the verb. 2. Shyam said, 'I can solve this problem.' Answers 1. The officer told the clerk to bring him that file. Janaki said that she had been reading that book. For example: When Mrs Diaz opened the door, I asked, "Have you seen Lee?" She replied, "No, I haven't seen him since lunchtime." The boss was angry and shouted, "Why isn't he here?" 5. When we report a yes/no question, we use 'if'. Mother asked what the matter was. 12. 1. The little girl asked the man, "Will you help me?" 3. For example: You told me to call you back later. He told me to have a seat. She told us not to do that. When you make a request, you normally use words like 'can', 'could', or 'will'. Susie said, 'I had read this book before I gave it to you.' 6. For example: Direct speech: 'I'm seeing my brother tomorrow.' Indirect speech: She said she was seeing her brother the following day. Here are some other examples: Direct speech: 'I had a headache yesterday.' Indirect speech: You said you'd had a headache the day before yesterday. Direct speech: 'It's been raining since this afternoon.' Indirect speech: He said it'd been raining since that afternoon. Direct speech: 'I haven't seen them since last week.' Indirect speech: She said she hadn't seen them since the previous week. Reporting Questions When you report a question you need to change the interrogative form into an affirmative sentence, putting the verb tense one step back, as with normal reported speech. There are two types of questions that we can report - questions that have a yes/no response, and questions that begin with a question word like 'what', 'where', 'who' etc. 6. The little girl asked the man if he would help her. Change them into indirect speech. Mike said, 'I will bring my piano.' 7. Read the speech bubbles and complete the reported statements. For example: Direct speech: 'Where do they live?' Indirect speech: You asked me where they lived. Direct speech: 'When are you leaving?' Indirect speech: He asked us when we were leaving. Direct speech: 'How will they get here?' Indirect speech: She asked me how they would get here. When we report a question we normally use the verb 'ask'. For example: Direct speech: 'Do they live here?' Indirect speech: You asked me if they lived here. As you can see, in the reported version of the question, 'do' is eliminated because it is no longer a question, and the verb 'live' becomes 'lived'. For questions starting with question words like 'what', 'where', 'when', 'who', etc., we report the question using the question word but change the interrogative form to the affirmative form. Free ESL Printable Grammar Worksheets, Eal Exercises, Efl Questions, Tefl Handouts, Esol Quizzes, Multiple Choice Tests, Eit Activities, English Teaching and Learning Resources, Information and Rules for kids about Reported Speech Reported Speech ESL Grammar Exercises Worksheet A colorful ESL grammar exercises worksheet for kids to study and learn reported speech. We use direct speech when we simply repeat what someone says, putting the phrase between speech marks: Paul came in and said, "I'm really hungry." It is very common to see direct speech used in books or in a newspaper article. Shyam said that he could solve that problem. For example: Using 'say' or 'tell' As an alternative to using 'say' we can also use 'tell' ('told' in the past) in reported speech, but in this case you need to add the object pronoun. 11. Sophia said that she had watched that movie the previous week. In order to describe what people said there are two different types of speech - direct speech and indirect speech (or reported speech). However, when we report things in the past, we usually change the tense by moving it one step back. 7, 3. Get more Perfect English Grammar with our courses. Mother said to the daughter, 'Go and change your dress.' 5. For example: The local MP said, "We plan to make this city a safer place for everyone." As you can see, with direct speech it is common to use the verb 'to say' ('said' in the past). 10. For example: "Call me back later." "Have a seat." "Don't do that!" To report an order we use 'tell' and the infinitive of the verb. For example: Direct speech: "We're quite cold in here." Indirect speech: They say (that) they're cold. When we report what someone says in the present simple, as in the above sentence, we normally don't change the tense, we simply change the subject. Sophia said, 'I watched this movie last week.' 11. Such occasions can include a social situation as well as in a work email or presentation. For example: He told me he was going to call Alan. They told her they would arrive a little late. You told us you'd already finished the order. Changing Time Expressions Sometimes it's necessary to change the time expressions when you report speech, especially when you are speaking about the past and the time reference no longer applies. Malathi asked, "Where is your watch?" 10. Mike said that he would bring his piano. Simple and useful for teaching and learning reported speech in English. Read the short grammar information about Reported Speech for present simple, past simple and will future tense and do the exercises. Jane asked, 'Have you read that book?' 9. 4. But you can also find other verbs used to indicate direct speech such as 'ask', 'reply', and 'shout'. As with the verb 'to tell', the verb 'to ask' is normally followed by an object pronoun, though it is possible to omit it. Reporting Orders and Requests When you give someone an order, you use the imperative form, which means using just the verb without a subject. Read on to find out more about these forms and improve your English storytelling skills. Direct Speech When we want to describe what someone said, one option is to use direct speech. Mother asked, 'What is the matter?' 12. 34 > Next Sentences are given in direct speech. The teacher said to the boys, 'Have you done your homework?' 2. 8. Jane asked if I had read that book. There are many occasions in which we need to describe an event or action that happened, and very often that includes repeating what someone said. 9. Here is an example for all the main tenses: The same rule of moving the tenses one step back also applies to modal verbs. Janaki said, 'I have been reading this book.' 4. Index of contents Video: reported speech - modal verbs Here's a list of all the reported speech exercises on this site: (Click here to read the explanations about reported speech) Reported Statements: Reported Questions: Reported Orders and Requests: Reported Requests and Orders Exercise (intermediate) (in PDF here) Mixed Exercises: Need more practice? Susie said that she had read that book before she gave it to me. Malathi asked where my watch was. The teacher asked the boys if they had done their homework. For example, in the following sentence the present simple becomes the past simple in indirect speech: Direct speech: 'I have a new car.' Indirect speech: He said he had a new car. All the other tenses follow a similar change in indirect speech. Prev < 1 2 3 ... Indirect Speech ESL Grammar Exercise Worksheet A fun ESL grammar exercise worksheet for kids to study and practise indirect speech for simple present tense, will future tense and going to. He hasn't finished that report yet! Indirect Speech When we want to report what someone said without speech marks and without necessarily using exactly the same words, we can use indirect speech (also called reported speech). For example: You asked me to call you back later. He asked me to have a seat. She asked us not to do that. Now you've seen how we use direct and indirect speech, practice using them yourself. The officer told the clerk, 'Bring me that file.' 8. Mother told the daughter to go and change her dresses.

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