

## REPORTED SPEECH

### Practice

Write these sentences in indirect speech.

- 1 'I'm very tired,' she said.

*She said she was very tired.*

- 2 'I'll see them soon,' he said.

*He said he would see them soon.*

- 3 'I'm going to the cinema,' she said.

.....

- 4 'I see the children quite often,' he said.

.....

- 5 'I'm having a bath,' she said.

.....

- 6 'I've already met their parents,' he said.

.....

- 7 'I stayed in a hotel for a few weeks,' she said.

.....

- 8 'I must go home to make the dinner,' he said.

.....

- 9 'I haven't been waiting long,' she said.

.....

- 10 'I'm listening to the radio,' he said.

.....

- 11 'I'll tell them the news on Saturday,' she said.

.....

- 12 'I like swimming, dancing and playing tennis,' he said.

.....

- 13 'I can drive,' she said.

.....

- 14 'I walked home after the party,' he said.

.....

- 15 'I'm going to be sick,' she said.

.....

- 16 'I must go out to post a letter,' he said.

.....

- 17 'I spoke to Jane last week,' she said.

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- 18 'I'm trying to listen to the music,' he said.

.....

- 19 'I'll phone the office from the airport,' she said.

.....

- 20 'I can't speak any foreign languages,' he said.

.....

## REPORTED SPEECH

### Practice

Write these sentences in indirect speech, changing words where necessary.

- 1 'I'll see you tomorrow,' she said.  
*She said she'd see me the next day.*
- 2 'I saw her today,' he said.  
*He said he'd seen her that day.*
- 3 'I don't like this film,' she said.  
.....
- 4 She said, 'We went swimming today.'  
.....
- 5 'I'll see Mary on Sunday,' she said.  
.....
- 6 'I met her about three months ago,' he said.  
.....
- 7 'Pete and Sue are getting married tomorrow,' she said.  
.....  
.....
- 8 'Stephen's bringing some records to the party tonight,' he said.  
.....  
.....
- 9 'I really like this furniture,' she said.  
.....
- 10 'My parents are arriving tomorrow,' she said.  
.....
- 11 'We visited her this morning,' they said.  
.....
- 12 'We'll see her next week,' they said.  
.....
- 13 'They were here three months ago,' he said.  
.....
- 14 'I'm meeting them at four o'clock today,' he said.  
.....  
.....
- 15 'I can see you tomorrow,' she said.  
.....

## REPORTED SPEECH

### Check

Complete these sentences with the correct form of the verbs.

- 1 He said he *had* already *spoken* to the manager. (speak)
- 2 She asked me *to take off* my shoes. (take off)
- 3 He wanted to know where I *had been living* for the last few years. (live)
- 4 I warned her ..... too near the cliff edge. (not go)
- 5 I asked her if Mrs Brownlow ..... just ..... . (leave)
- 6 I told them ..... they were in the right part of the train. (check)
- 7 He told me he ..... for several days. (not eat)
- 8 We agreed that I ..... them a few days later. (see)
- 9 They asked me if I ..... a cup of tea. (like)
- 10 He begged her ..... him some money, but she refused. (give)
- 11 The police ordered the crowd ..... . (stay back)
- 12 She wants to know if the manager ..... tomorrow. (come back)
- 13 The expression on his face told me that I ..... late. (be)
- 14 We decided that the computer ..... switched off. (have to be)
- 15 We advised the company ..... a new factory. (open)
- 16 I asked him whether Mr Steadman ..... yet. (register)
- 17 He ordered his soldiers ..... there. (stay)
- 18 Your parents want to know if you ..... a good time at the moment. (have)
- 19 They told me that the train ..... at that very moment. (leave)
- 20 I wanted to know how much money I ..... in my bank account. (have)
- 21 Mr Jones wants to know why you suddenly ..... to resign last week. (decide)

## **REPORTED SPEECH**

- 22 The other people in the flat asked me ..... (not smoke)
- 23 The publishers have told me that they ..... my book. (not going to accept)
- 24 She replied that she ..... the answer. (not know)
- 25 They told me I ..... very polite the previous evening. (not be)
- 26 He indicated that he ..... by nodding his head. (agree)
- 27 They shouted that they ..... cross the river and that they ..... back to the car. (cannot / going to go)
- 28 They asked me ..... anything but just ..... quietly. (not say / listen)
- 29 She asked when the plane ..... the night before and whether it ..... direct from Brussels. (arrive / come)
- 30 He asked whether I ..... to Dr Jones when I was in hospital. (talk)

## **REPORTED SPEECH**

Note: **that** can be used after the main verb in all these sentences.

1 She said (that) she was very tired. 2 He said (that) he would see them soon. 3 She said (that) she was going to the cinema. 4 He said (that) he saw the children quite often. 5 She said (that) she was having a bath. 6 He said (that) he'd already met their parents. 7 She said (that) she'd stayed in a hotel for a few weeks. 8 He said (that) he had to go home to make the dinner. 9 She said (that) she hadn't been waiting long. 10 He said (that) he was listening to the radio. 11 She said (that) she'd tell them the news on Saturday. 12 He said (that) he liked swimming, dancing and playing tennis. 13 She said (that) she could drive. 14 He said (that) he'd walked home after the party. 15 She said (that) she was going to be sick. 16 He said (that) he had to go out to post a letter. 17 She said (that) she'd spoken to Jane last week. 18 He said (that) he was trying to listen to the music. 19 She said (that) she'd phone the office from the airport. 20 He said (that) he couldn't speak any foreign languages.

## REPORTED SPEECH

Note: **that** can be used after the main verb in all these sentences.

1 She said (that) she'd see me the next day. 2 He said (that) he'd seen her that day. 3 She said (that) she didn't like the film. 4 She said (that) they'd gone swimming that day. 5 She said (that) she'd see Mary the following Sunday. 6 He said (that) he'd met her about three months previously/before. 7 She said (that) Pete and Sue were getting married the next day. 8 He said (that) Stephen was bringing some records to the party that night. 9 She said (that) she really liked the furniture. 10 She said (that) her parents were arriving the next day. 11 They said (that) they had visited her that morning. 12 They said (that) they'd see her the following week. 13 He said (that) they had been there three months before/previously. 14 He said (that) he was meeting them at four o'clock that day. 15 She said (that) she could see me the following day

1 had ... spoken 2 to take off 3 had been living 4 not to go 5 had ... left  
6 to check 7 hadn't eaten 8 would see 9 would like 10 to give 11 to stay back  
12 will be coming back/is coming back 13 I was 14 had to be switched off  
15 to open 16 had registered 17 to stay 18 are having 19 was leaving 20 had  
21 decided 22 not to smoke 23 are not going to accept 24 didn't know 25 had not been  
26 agreed 27 couldn't ... were going to go 28 not too say ... to listen  
29 had arrived ... had come 30 had talked