

# Reported Speech

ELIF NAZ TEKİN 2 HAZ 2021, 18:53

## Reported speech

### Direct Speech


**Reported Speech**

Click here for a list of reported speech exercises. Click here to download this explanation in PDF. Reported Statements

When do we use reported speech?

Sometimes someone says a sentence, for example "I'm going to the cinema tonight". Later, maybe we want to tell someone else what the first person said.

PERFECT-ENGLISH-GRAMMAR



### What is direct speech?

**Direct speech** is a sentence in which **the exact words spoken are reproduced in speech marks** (also known as quotation marks or inverted commas). For example:

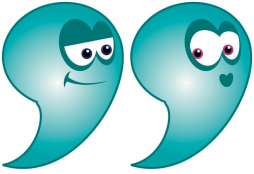
"You'll never guess what I've just seen!" said Sam, excitedly.  
 "What's that?" asked Louise.  
 "Our teacher has a broomstick and a black pointy hat in the back of her car. Maybe she's a witch!"  
 "No, silly! They're for the school play!" replied Louise, sighing

### Indirect Speech

**What are direct and indirect speech?**

What are direct and indirect speech? | TheSchoolRun From Year 3 onwards your child will learn to write direct speech (quoting exact words spoken) and indirect speech (reporting a conversation). Our parents' guide covers the use of speech marks and how your child will cover this area of punctuation in the classroom.

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### What is indirect speech?

Indirect speech is when the general points of what someone has said are reported, without actually writing the speech out in full. It is sometimes called reported speech. For example:

Sam was excited to see a broomstick and a black pointy hat in the back of his teacher's car. He told his friend Louise about this and that he thought their teacher might be a witch. Louise had to point out that the things in their teacher's car were for the school play.

### Quiz

**A Short Quiz: Direct And Indirect Speech**

DIRECT SPEECH	INDIRECT SPEECH
She said, "I can swim."	She said she could swim.
She said, "I must go."	She said she had to go.
She said, "I may drive there."	She said she might drive there.
She said, "Shall we start?"	She asked if we should start.
She said, "I'll call you."	She said she would call me.

There are different ways in which people can report what people have said in a given situation, and as discussed in class, this can either be using direct or indirect speech. Indirect speech, the report uses the same words of the speaker, whereas, in indirect speech, one does not use the speaker's exact words.

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