

# Direct vs Indirect speech

Quizlet



<http://bit.ly/incl-adult-class>

## VOCABULARY

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|    | Words           | Notes |    | Words          | Notes |
|----|-----------------|-------|----|----------------|-------|
| 1  | speaker         |       | 11 | reporting verb |       |
| 2  | speech          |       | 12 | - agree        |       |
| 3  | direct speech   |       | 13 | - answer       |       |
| 4  | indirect speech |       | 14 | - ask          |       |
| 5  | quote           |       | 15 | - inquire      |       |
| 6  | report          |       | 16 | - explain      |       |
| 7  | quotation marks |       | 17 | - say          |       |
| 8  | inverted commas |       | 18 | - tell         |       |
| 9  | past tense      |       | 19 | - reply        |       |
| 10 | question verb   |       | 20 | - wonder       |       |

## GRAMMAR

In English, there are two ways of conveying what someone else has said: direct/quoted speech and indirect/reported speech.

When using direct speech, we are quoting exactly what someone has said.

e.g. *She asked "What time will you be home?" He replied "I will be home at 12."*

When using indirect speech, we are reporting or summarising what someone has said. We do not use quotation marks for indirect speech. We may use the word 'that' before the reported words.

Another thing to note is that the modal verbs from direct speech (e.g. will, can, must, shall, may) also change, taking their past tense forms (would, could, had to, should, might) in indirect speech.

We may also need to change the personal pronoun, such as I, you, he, she, we, they, etc.

e.g. *She asked what time he would be home, and he replied that he would be home at 12.*

**Practice...** one person will roll a dice and say that number's sentence below. Another student will report what was said in indirect speech.

1. "I can't reach the cookies."
2. "I need to go to the dentist."
3. "Are you ready for tomorrow?"
4. "What happened to your hamster?"
5. "My grandmother went there when she was young."
6. "What time did we book the table for at the restaurant?"

## Discussion

*What experiences have you had with public speaking, or even speaking in front of work or school peers?*

*Did you enjoy it? Or do you have a fear of public speaking?*

# HOMWORK

Re-write the following direct speech interactions as indirect speech...

1. He said, "I've been married for three years."

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2. "There's a bug in my soup!" screamed Mei.

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3. Andy explained, "I worked as a postman before moving to Japan."

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4. Steve told John, "We will listen to music." John agreed, "Great!"

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5. "Have you seen my pencil?" my friend asked me.

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6. George explained, "I need help with my homework."

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7. "I went to the theater yesterday," she said.

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8. "What are you doing?" Tom asked. "I'm waiting for Michael," Sally replied.



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Q 1. MARTIN LUTHER KING SAID "I HAVE A \_\_\_\_\_."  
A. DREAM B. NIGHTMARE C. SORE THROAT D. DATE

U 2. WHERE DID RONALD REAGAN'S FAMOUS "TEAR DOWN THIS WALL" SPEECH OCCUR?  
A. LONDON B. MOSCOW C. BERLIN D. AMSTERDAM

I 3. MANY PEOPLE SUFFER FROM GLOSSOPHOBIA, WHICH IS THE FEAR OF \_\_\_\_\_. A. FORGETTING WORDS  
B. PUBLIC SPEAKING C. OTHER LANGUAGES D. TONGUES

Z 4. GEORGE WASHINGTON BEGAN AS U.S PRESIDENT WITH A SHORT SPEECH. HOW MANY WORDS DID IT HAVE?  
A. 104 B. 142 C. 135 D. 87

? 5. A VERY LONG SPEECH OCCURRED IN BRITISH PARLIAMENT IN 1828. HOW LONG DID IT LAST?  
A. 3 HOURS B. 4 HOURS C. 5 HOURS D. 6 HOURS

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