

Tender Heart High School, Sec-33B Chd.  
Subject: English Language  
Class: VI  
Chapter: 25

## Direct and Indirect Speech

Good Morning Students,

Today let us understand 'Direct and Indirect Speech' which is given on page number 130 in your English grammar book.

There are two ways in which we can report what a person has said.

Direct Speech:

When we use the exact words of the speaker to report what he/she has said, we use the direct speech.

\* The instructor shouted, "Forward March!"

The words used by the speaker are enclosed within quotation marks (.....). The verb preceding the quoted words is called the reporting verb.

- \* the reporting verb is followed by a comma (,)
- \* the words spoken are enclosed within the quotation marks (.....)
- \* the first word in between inverted comma begins with a capital letter.

## Indirect Speech

When we use our own words to report what a person has said, we use the indirect speech also called as the reported speech.

\* My sister told me that she was going to Ladakh the week after.

\* the reporting verb is followed by that.

\* the reporting speech is not within the inverted commas.

\* the speech is changed in such a way that its pronouns and tenses are suitable for the reporter.

## Rules for changing Direct speech to Indirect

### Change Of Tense:

While changing a sentence from direct speech to indirect speech —

- \* If the reporting verb is in present or future tense, the tense of the verb in indirect speech remains unchanged.

example

\* He says, 'I am going to school.'

⇒ He says that he is going to school.

\* He will say, 'I am studying.'

⇒ He will say that he is studying.



2. If the reporting verb is in the past tense, the tense of the verb changes:

(i) Simple present → simple past  
eg: He said, "I play football."  
He said that he played football.

(ii) Present continuous → past continuous  
eg: He said, "I am writing an essay."  
He said that he was writing an essay.

(iii) Present perfect → past perfect  
eg: He said, "I have written an essay."  
He said that he had written an essay.

(iv) Simple past → past perfect  
eg: He said, "I wrote a letter."  
He said that he had written a letter.

(v) Past continuous → past perfect continuous.  
eg: He said, "I was writing an essay."  
He said that he had been writing an essay.

NOTE:

(vi) Past perfect and past perfect continuous remain unchanged.

example

\* He said, "The storm had damaged the roads."

\* He said that the storm had damaged the roads.

\* She said, "Sia had been dancing."

\* She said that Sia had been dancing.

## Some Changes.

- (vii) Will → would  
 shall → should or would  
 can → could  
 may → might  
 must → had to

eg: He said, 'I will write a letter'.

He said that he would write a letter.

## Some more changes

### Changes of Time and Place Indicators.

#### Direct Speech

now  
 today  
 tonight  
 tomorrow  
 yesterday  
 ago  
 here  
 this  
 these  
 next day  
 next week  
 next year  
 last week  
 later  
 the day after  
 thus  
 at present  
 hereby  
 bring

#### Indirect Speech

then  
 that day  
 that night  
 the next day, the following day  
 the previous day, the day before  
 before  
 there  
 that  
 those  
 the following day  
 the following week  
 the following year  
 the previous week  
 after  
 in two days-time  
 so  
 at that time  
 thereby  
 take