

Changes in Reported Speech

| "Quoted Speech" (Direct Speech) | | Reported Speech (Indirect Speech) |
|------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| (the actual words a person says – | | (telling what a person said – |
| inside quotation marks) | | no quotation marks) |
| Simple Present | \rightarrow | Simple Past |
| Present Continuous | \rightarrow | Past Continuous |
| Present Perfect | \rightarrow | Past Perfect |
| Simple Past | \rightarrow | Past Perfect |
| Present Perfect Continuous | \rightarrow | Past Perfect Continuous |
| shall | \rightarrow | should |
| will | \rightarrow | would |
| may | \rightarrow | might |
| can | \rightarrow | could |
| must | \rightarrow | had to |
| Note: Would | | |
| Should | \rightarrow | These do not change |
| Ought to | | in reported speech. |
| Had better | | |
| Might | | |
| Used to | | |
| Could | | |

Other changes in reported speech

| This | \rightarrow | That |
|--------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| These | \rightarrow | Those |
| Today | \rightarrow | That day |
| Yesterday | \rightarrow | The day before |
| Now | \rightarrow | Then |
| Tomorrow | \rightarrow | The next day, the following day |
| The day before yesterday | \rightarrow | Two days before |
| The day after tomorrow | \rightarrow | Two days later, in two days' time |
| Next week | \rightarrow | The following week |
| Last week | \rightarrow | The previous week |

