

Reported Speech

We can report speech in two ways.

"I want to talk about ways to avoid verbal conflict."

1. **Direct Speech:**

She said, "I want to talk about ways to avoid verbal conflict."

2. **Indirect Speech / Reported Speech:**

She said (that) she wanted to talk about ways to avoid verbal conflict.

said + that-clause

*** Reporting Questions**

Yes/No Questions

If a yes/no question is reported, the noun clause is introduced by if whether (or not).

The man asked, "Does the bill include the tip?"

The man asked if the bill included the tip.

Wh-Questions

The customer asked what time does the manager arrive?"

The customer asked (the waitress) what time the manager arrived.

*Indirect questions: don't use do, does or did.

don't use a question mark.

The man asked, "How much is the service?"

The man asked how much the service was. *statement word order*

* Use **statement word order** to report indirect questions about the **predicate**.

* But use **question word order** to report indirect questions about the **subject**.

Who's going to do the dishes?, Mom asked.

Mom asked who was going to do the dishes.

VERB CHANGES IN INDIRECT SPEECH:

- simple present --
- present progressive --
- simple past -- *simple past*
- present perfect -- *past progressive*
- imperative -- *past perfect*
- The teacher said, "quit peracting."
- The teacher to *infinitive*

CHANGES IN OTHER WORDS:

- this -- *that*
- here -- *there*
- now -- *then*
- ago -- *before / previously*
- yesterday -- *the day before / the previous day*
- today -- *that day*
- tomorrow -- *the next day / the day after*

MODALS:

- can -- *could*
- will -- *would*
- may -- *might*
- must -- *had to*
- could -- *could*
- would -- *would*
- should / ought to -- *should*
- might -- *might*

When don't you change the verb?

- if what we are reporting happened a short time ago
- if general truths are reported
- e.g. "Does it snow here in winter?" Kenny asked.
- Kenny asked if it snows here in winter.
- or
- Kenny asked if it snowed here in winter.

She asked, "Where did Jason go?"
 She asked where Jason had gone.

He asked, "Where is the restaurant?"
 He asked where the restaurant was. *- predicate statement word order*

She asked, "What happened?"
 She asked what had happened *question word order - subject*

He asked, "Are you hungry?" Y/N

(or)
 He asked if I was hungry.
 whether

2. Sammi asked, "Where was the Rosetta Stone found?" *passive simple past*
 She told Sammi where the Rosetta Stone had been found. *passive past perfect*

3. She told Roberto how long World War II lasted. *past perfect*
 Roberto asked, "How long did WWII last?" *past perfect*

(She told Mei-Ling that Magellan had been from the country of Spain.)
 → Mei Ling asked, "Where was Magellan from?" *P.P.*

William asked, "Can a person born outside the U.S. become president?"