

Narration change of interrogative sentence

There are two main kinds of interrogative sentences. Those which start with an auxiliary verb and those which start with a question word such as what, why, when, where, how etc.

The following changes occur when an interrogative sentence in the direct speech is changed to the indirect speech.

Interrogative sentences beginning with an auxiliary verb are changed into the indirect speech by using the connective if or whether.

The reporting verb said (or any other word used as the reporting verb) changes to asked, queried, questioned, demanded of or enquired of in the indirect speech. Note that of is used after enquired and demanded only when the reporting verb has an object.

The most common reporting verbs used to report a question are asked and enquired of. The reporting verb queried is somewhat investigative. Demanded of is the strongest of all reporting verbs mentioned above. It is used when an explanation is desired.

Note that the indirect narration is always in the assertive form. In other words, the interrogative sentences in the direct speech will change into assertive sentences in the indirect speech.

Study the following examples carefully to understand the rules mentioned above.

Direct: She said to me, 'Are you coming with us?'

Indirect: She asked me if I was going with them. OR She asked them if I was coming with them.

Direct: She said to me, 'Are you unwell?'

Indirect: She asked me if I was unwell.

Direct: She said to him, 'Am I to wait for you till eternity?'

Indirect: She enquired of him if she was to wait for him till eternity.

Direct: I said to him, 'Were you present at the meeting yesterday?'

Indirect: I asked him whether he had been present at the meeting the day before (or the previous day).

Direct: The woman asked the stranger, 'Should I help you?'

Indirect: The woman asked the stranger whether she should help him.

Note that the auxiliary verbs should, could, would, ought to and might do not change in the indirect speech.

Direct: I said to him, 'Who are you?'

Indirect: I asked him who he was.

Direct: The mother said to the daughter, 'Do you know where John is?'

Indirect: The mother asked the daughter whether she knew where John was.

Direct: 'Have you anything to say on behalf of the accused?', said the judge to the lawyer.

Indirect: The judge enquired of the lawyer if he had anything to say on behalf of the accused.

Narration change of exclamatory sentence

Exclamatory sentences express a sudden outburst of some emotions such as joy, sorrow, contempt, regret, surprise etc. Common explanatory phrases are given below:

Hurrah! Ha! (Express joy)
Alas! Oh! (Express sorrow, regret, or loss)
Bravo! (Express Applause)
What! Oh! How! (Express surprise)
Pooh! Pshaw! (Express contempt)

An exclamatory sentence has a sign of exclamation after it which changes into a full stop in the indirect speech.

In indirect speech, the exclamatory phrase or word (interjection) is replaced by ‘exclaimed with joy, sorrow, regret, surprise, contempt etc.’

The connective that has to be supplied in the indirect speech.

Examples are given below:

Direct: The boy said, ‘Hurrah! We have won the match.’
Indirect: The boy exclaimed with joy that they had won the match.
Direct: The old man said, ‘Alas! I have lost my purse.’
Indirect: The old man exclaimed with sorrow that he had lost his purse.
Direct: The child said, ‘What a beautiful sight!’
Indirect: The child exclaimed with delight that it was a very beautiful sight. OR The child exclaimed with delight that the sight was very beautiful.
Direct: The girl said, ‘How beautiful the girl is!’
Indirect: The girl exclaimed with delight that the rainbow was very beautiful.
Direct: The candidate said, ‘How difficult the problem is!’
Indirect: The candidate exclaimed with disapproval that the problem was very difficult.

A sentence that expresses a request, advice, or order is called an imperative sentence.

Examples:

Please help me.
Respect the elders.
Open the door.

The imperative sentence expresses a request, advice or order. Therefore, to convert them into indirect speech, some specific verbs (e.g., requested, advised, ordered, forbade, suggested) are used instead of the reporting verbs (e.g., he said, she told).

The word 'to' or 'not to' is also added before the verb of the reported speech within the sentence. See the following examples.

She said to me, "Please help me".
She requested me to help her.

He said to me, "Please make some tea for me"
He requested me to make some tea for him.

She said to them, "Please do not make a noise".
She requested them not to make a noise.

The old man said to him, "Always speak the truth".
The old man advised him to always speak the truth.

Rules of Narration Change of Optative Sentence

While converting the Optative Sentence from Direct to Indirect Speech, the following rules have to be observed:

- (i) In the case of Optative, the Reporting Verb is changed into wish/pray/long for/yearn/earnestly desire etc.
- (ii) The Optative Sentence is changed into Assertive Sentence and linker that is used in the Indirect Speech.
- (iii) In the Indirect Speech 'may' is changed into 'might'.

Examples of Narration Change of Optative Sentence:

(1) Direct:- Mother said to me, "May you prosper in life."
Indirect:- Mother wished me that I might prosper in life.

(2) Direct:- The old man said to me, "May God bless you."
Indirect:- The old man prayed that God might bless me.

(3) Direct:- The followers said, "Long live our leader."
Indirect:- The followers wished that their leader might live long.

Passage Narration

Some certain rules are followed while writing passage narration. All the rules are discussed with examples below:

Rule 1:

At first, you have to read the whole passage to identify the speaker and the audience. Then you have to determine the mood of the verb in their speeches.

Rule 2:

When the reporting verb is placed in the middle or at the end of the sentence while converting it into Indirect you have to put it after the subject at the beginning of the sentence.

Rule 3:

In case of Assertive sentences: also said/again said, added/further added, etc. are used.

In case of Interrogative sentences: also asked/again asked/ further asked, etc. are used.

In case of Imperative sentences: and ordered to/ and requested, etc. are used.

In case of Optative sentences: and wished/and prayed that, etc. are used.

In case of Exclamatory sentences: and exclaimed with happiness/ joy that/in grief that, etc. are used.

Rule 4:

If reported speech has only “Yes”, then Subject+ replied in the affirmative or Subject+ Auxilliary Verb is used and if reported speech has other speech after “Yes”, then Subject+ replied in the affirmative and said that is used.

Rule 5:

If reported speech has only “No”, then Subject+ replied in the negative or Subject+ Auxilliary Verb+ not is used and if reported speech has other speech after “No”, then Subject+ replied in the negative and said that is used.

Rule 6:

When direct speech has “Sir”, the indirect speech will use with respect/respectfully/ politely instead of “Sir”.

Rule 7:

If someone is addressed in the direct speech, the indirect speech will use addressing ‘as’.

Rule 8:

If outside the inverted comma reporting speech has “ask”, it will be used after the subject in the indirect speech.

Rule 9:

When reported speech has a note of interrogation (?) after an assertive sentence, the indirect speech will use “being surprised” before the reporting verb.

Rule 10:

When reported speech has “Thank”, the indirect speech will use reported verb’s subject+ thanked+ reported verb’s object.

Rule 11:

If reported speech has “Goodbye”, the indirect speech will use reported verb’s subject + bade + reported verb’s object + goodbye.

Rule 12:

If reported speech has a good night/good morning/ good evening, the indirect speech will use, reported verb’s subject+ wished+ reported verb’s object+ good night/good morning/ good evening.

Rule 13:

Sometimes reported speech doesn’t have a complete sentence, in those cases, you have to follow the speaker’s speech in indirect speech to get the full meaning.

Rule 14:

Often reported speech doesn’t mention the speaker and the listener, in these cases you have to mention the speaker and the listener while transforming it into indirect speech.

Rule 15:

If reported speech has asked/ cried/replied/muttered, the reporting verb in the indirect speech will be unchanged.

Solutions:-

Grammar

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A.

1. Rina said **that** it **gave her** great pleasure to be **there that** evening.
2. She **said to** him, '**wait for my** return'.
3. The teacher **ordered to** put **their** pencils down.
4. Divya asked me **whether/if she could** stay with **me**.
5. Deeksha **said to** her mother , "**I have** won the prize"

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B.

1. He said that he was learning French those days.
2. Newton said that we are standing on the earth because of the gravitational pull.
3. He asked me whether I was not feeling well that day.
4. Mohan said to Sheeba that he had composed a new song.
5. She asked him when he liked her to finish that work.
6. The officer asked the soldiers how many of them had fought a war before
7. The students requested their teacher politely to allow them to watch the cricket match.
8. My mother ordered me to buy a loaf of bread on my way home.
9. The driver asked the passerby if / whether he /she knew the way to the market.
10. Father said that it was time they had begun planning their holidays.
11. Ruchi told her mother that sge hadn't bought anything for herself but had bought a saree for her.
12. The judge told the accused that he had committed robbery again and thence he would get a longer sentence.
13. Anu asked her friend if he would look after her cat while she was away to see her mother.
14. He said that when they had been living in Haridwar they had gone to the banks of the Ganga every day.
15. Father told Rohit that he had to return his friend's car immediately/ Father ordered Rohit to return his friend's car immediately.

C.(page no 84)

1. We prayed that our friendship might live long.
2. Everybody exclaimed with wonder that she sings well.
3. She exclaimed with sorrow that there was nobody to support her.
4. The players exclaimed with anger that it was a wrong decision and it was unfair.
5. The professor ordered to leave the class.
6. He exclaimed with surprise for a glass of water.
7. The coach exclaimed with joy by addressing the team that it had been a superb performance.
8. She wished that she hadn't spent all her pocket money.

9. The teacher wished that the best team might win.
10. The poor man prayed that he might never succeed in his evil plans