

Subject - English

Class- x

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Reported speech ; Commands & requests -

The sentences that form the sense of commands, requests, advice, suggestions, instructions are Imperative sentences.

Reported speech: Imperative sentences(commands, orders, requests & suggestions) -

When we want to report an order or request, we can use a verb like 'tell' with a to-clause: He told me to go away.

The pattern is verb + indirect object + to-clause. The indirect object is the person spoken to. Other verbs used to report orders and requests in this way are: command, order, warn, ask, advise, invite, beg, teach, & forbid.

Examples

Direct speech to Indirect speech -

The doctor said to me, "Stop smoking!". -The doctor told me to stop smoking.

"Get out of the car!" said the policeman. -The policeman ordered him to get out of the car.

"Could you please be quiet," she said. -She asked me to be quiet.

The man with the gun said to us, "Don't move!" The man with the gun warned us not to move.

- Requests for objects -

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Requests for objects are reported using the pattern "asked for" + object.

Examples

Direct speech to Indirect speech -

"Can I have an apple?", she asked.

She asked for an apple.

"Can I have the newspaper, please?"

He asked for the newspaper.

"May I have a glass of water?" he said.      He asked for a glass of water.

Suggestions -

Suggestions are most often reported using the verbs suggest, insist, recommend, demand, request, and propose followed by a that clause. 'That' and 'should' are optional in these clauses, as shown in the first two examples below. Note that suggest, recommend, and propose may also be followed by a gerund in order to eliminate the indirect object (the receiver of the suggestion) and thus make the suggestion more polite.

Direct speech to Indirect speech-

She said, "Why don't you get a mechanic to look at the car?"  
She suggested that I should get a mechanic to look at the car. OR  
She suggested I should get a mechanic to look at the car. OR  
She suggested that I get a mechanic to look at the car. OR  
She suggested I get a mechanic to look at the car.

"Why don't you go to the doctor?" he said.  
He suggested I go to the doctor. OR  
He suggested that I go to the doctor. OR  
He suggested I should go to the doctor. OR  
He suggested that I should go to the doctor

My manager said, "I think we should examine the budget carefully at this meeting."  
My manager proposed that we examine the budget carefully at the meeting.

"Why don't you sleep overnight at my house?" she said.      She suggested that I sleep overnight at her house.

- Reported Orders, Commands and Requests are formed using the to-infinitive and not to-infinitive.

The reporting verbs for the orders/ commands/ requests are: order, shout, demand, warn, beg, command, tell, insist, beseech, threaten, implore, ask, propose, forbid...

When we change from direct to indirect speech, the pronoun and tense changes that are also needed.

Rules for the Change of Pronouns:

The first person pronouns (I, me, my, we, us, our) in the reported speech change according to the subject of the reporting verb.

The pronouns of the second person (you, your, yourself) in the reported speech change according to the object of the reporting verb.

The pronouns of the third person do not change.

Changes in words expressing nearness, time, auxiliaries, etc.

this	changes into	that
there	changes into	there
now	changes into	then
here	changes into	there
today	changes into	that day
tomorrow	changes into	the next day
yesterday	changes into	the previous day
last night	changes into	the previous night
can	changes into	could
may	changes into	might
shall	changes into	should
will	changes into	would
ago	changes into	before

Change in Tenses:

If the reporting verb is in the present or the future tense, the tense of the reported speech is not changed:

Satish says, "I am flying a kite."

Satish says that he is flying a kite.

Satish will say that he wants a glass of milk.

If the reporting verb is in the past tense, then the tense of the reported speech will change as follows:

<b>Direct</b>		<b>Indirect</b>
Simple Present	changes into	Simple Past
was		were
Present Progressive	changes into	Past Progressive
was/were writing		was/were writing
Present Perfect	changes into	Past Perfect
has written		had written
Simple Past	changes into	Past Perfect
wrote		had written
Past Progressive	changes into	Past Perfect Progressive
was/were writing		had been writing