

## English Grammar Class 8

### Direct and Indirect Speech

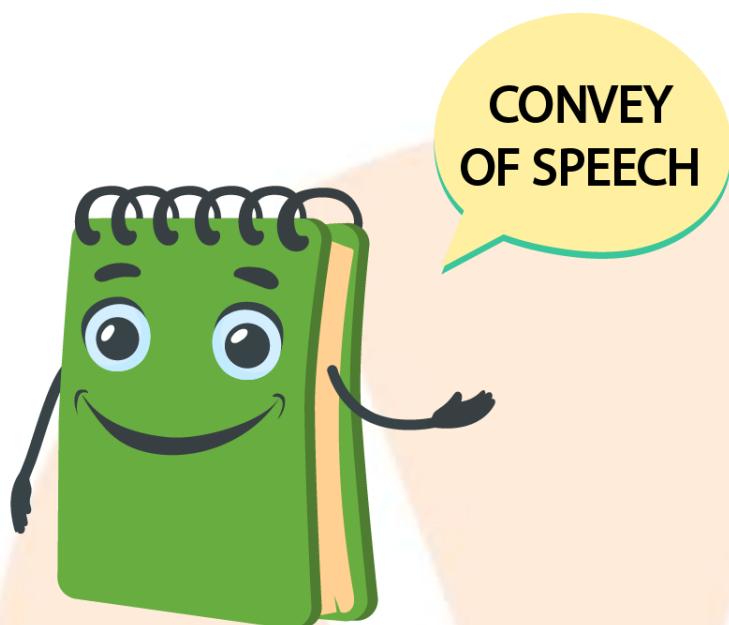
Today we will study an exciting topic “Reported speech”. Reported speech refers to how we have interpreted the words of the speaker.

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*Image: English Grammar*

### Definition of Reported Speech

In simple terms, Reported speech refers to reporting the speech of the speaker i.e. whether conveying directly the words of the speaker or indirectly conveying after altering the words of the speaker. For good understanding and idea clarity, practice questions and solved examples are provided throughout the article. Let's start our journey on this pretty topic.



*Image: The convey of speech*

### **Parts of Reported Speech in a Sentence**

- Reported verb
- Reported speech,

For example, Ram said to me, "he wants to eat pizza".

Here in the sentence, Ram said to me is the reporting verb,

And the sentence in inverted commas "he wants to eat pizza" is the reported speech.

The reported verb refers to the simple sentence at the starting of the sentence and reported speech refers to the sentence in inverted commas that defines someone else.

### **Reporting Verb**

The part of the sentence which is not in the inverted commas is called the reported verb.

When we change direct speech into indirect speech then there are 3 types/ forms of changes that take place.

- Change of person
- Change of tense and
- Change of other parts of speech

For example, Priya said to the class, "keep quiet teacher is coming".

Here in the sentence, Priya said to the class is the reporting verb.

### Reporting Speech

The part of the sentence which is under inverted commas is called reporting speech.

The second part of the sentence refers to some other person, universal facts, imaginary parts, historical facts, happening events, etc.

For example, Shyam said, "taj mahal was built by Shahjahan"

Here the sentence "taj mahal was built by Shahjahan" is the reported speech.

Basically, there are two types of speech.

- Direct speech
- Indirect speech

### Direct Speech



### *Image: Direct Speech*

It refers to reporting the exact words spoken by the speaker. There is no change in the verb or the sentence.

For example, Ram said to Riya, “go to school”

Priya asked Ram, “where is her bag”

Ratan enquired Raman,” why was he not picking up her call”.

### **Rules of Direct Speech**

1. Speech should be opened with quotations or inverted commas.
2. The word said is used to connect two sentences.
3. Reporting clause should be used at the end of the sentence.
4. At the end of the sentence full stop should be placed.

### **Indirect Speech**



### *Image: Indirect Speech*

It is the speech that tells what someone has said but it does not explain the actual words spoken by the person. It just conveys the basic narration of what is being said to the third person.

For example, Ram asked Riya to go to school.

Priya asked Ram where was her bag.

Ratan enquired Raman why was he not picking up her call.

### Rules of Indirect Speech

1. Past tense is used when the situation is uncertain
2. The present tense of the sentence is changed to the past tense in indirect speech.
3. Universal facts tense remains the same.
4. The use of the word “that” connects the reported verb and reported speech.

### Difference between Direct Speech and Indirect Speech

Basic	Direct speech	Indirect speech
<b>Definition</b>	Direct speech basically refers to what someone has said i.e. the actual words and we also use quotation marks in this.	In indirect speech we don't use quotation marks rather we use the conjunction “that”.
<b>Examples</b>	She said, “ she must go”. She has written three letters to her friends.	She said she had to go.

### Difficult Words with Meaning

Word	Meaning
Narration	The act or process of narrating
conjunction	A word used for joining other words

Quotation	A phrase or speech being constantly repeated.
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### Summary

Direct and indirect speech of narration are used to define the words of the speaker to the listener. Just the difference between the two lies in conveying actual words and pirated words, wherein, the actual words are described in direct speech and pirated words in indirect speech. The sentence in inverted commas is direct speech and the sentence not in inverted commas and added with the conjunction is considered indirect speech.

### Practice Question

**Rewrite the following sentence converting from direct speech to indirect speech.**

1. He asked me “ what is your mother’s name”.
2. Riya said to the shopkeeper, “ what is the price of the item?”
3. Ram said, “How is the weather”.
4. Commander said to militararians, “practice well”.
5. Honey told his mother, “I am not feeling well”.
6. The Doctor said, “Health is your wealth”.
7. Traffic police said, “Don't rush”.

### Answers

1. He asked me what my mother's name is.
2. Riya asked the shopkeeper what the price of the items was.
3. Ram asked how the weather was.
4. Commander ordered militararians to practice well.
5. Honey told he mother that he was not feeling well.
6. The Doctor advised that health is wealth.

7. Traffic police asked the public not to rush.

