**INFO SHEET #6: Direct and Reported Speech**

**Competency**

**MELC:** **EN7G-III-e-3**

Use direct and reported speech appropriately in varied contexts.

**Objectives**

After the end of the lessons, the learners are expected to be able to:

1. Identify the different kinds of sentences according to function.
2. Differentiate direct and reported speech.
3. Convert direct to reported speech and vice-versa.

**Key Information**

**KINDS OF SENTENCES ACCORDING TO FUNCTION**

* **Declarative Sentence-** expresses a statement and ends with a period.

Example: Mina arrived in Japan yesterday.

* **Imperative Sentence-** expresses a command or request. It can end with a period or an exclamation point.

Example: Stop by the nearest grocery store and buy some snacks for me.

* **Interrogative Sentence-** expresses a question and ends with a question mark.

Example: Who invented the microscope?

**DIRECT AND REPORTED SPEECH**

In **direct speech**, the message of the speaker is conveyed or reported in his own actual words without any change. It is also known as quoted speech. The exact message of the speaker is enclosed by quotation marks “….”

Examples: The boy said, “I ate pancakes.”

The mother ordered, “Clean the house.”

“Is everything clear?” asked John.

A direct speech commonly has a reporting clause, reporting verb, reported clause and reported verb.

Examples: **Reporting clause - The boy said**, “I ate pancakes.”

**Reporting verb** - The boy **said**, “I ate pancakes.”

**Reported clause** - The boy said, “**I ate pancakes.**”

**Reported verb** - The boy said, “I **ate** pancakes.”

**Reported speech** is also known as indirect speech. It is a report on what someone else said or wrote without using that person's exact words. Unlike direct speech, it doesn’t have quotation marks.

Examples: The boy said that he had eaten pancakes.

The mother ordered to clean the house.

John asked if everything was clear.

**Basic Rules in Changing Direct Speech (DS) to Reported Speech (RS)**

**1. Changes in Person of Pronouns**

* 1st person pronouns in reported clause are always changed according to the subject of the reporting clause.

Examples: DS: *Anna* said, “*I* am happy.”

RS: *Anna* said that *she* was happy.

* 2nd person pronouns in reported clause are always changed according to the object of the reporting clause.

Examples: DS: Joy said to *Paul*, “*You* passed the exam.”

RS: Joy told *Paul* that *he* had passed the exam.

* 3rd Person pronouns in reported clause are not changed.

Examples: DS: Joana said, “*She* looks sad.”

RS: Joana said *she* looked sad.

**2. Changes in Verbs**

* If the reporting clause is in **present tense** or **future tense**, then **no change is required** to be made in the verb of reported clause. This verb could be in any tense.

Example: DS: He *says*, “I *am going* to the library.”

RS: He *says* that he *is going* to the library.

* If the reporting verb is in past tense, then the reported verb will be changed depending on its tense.

Example: DS: The man said, “I *join* the club.” (present simple tense)

RS: The man said that he *joined* the club. (past simple tense)

**3. Other significant word changes**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DIRECT** | | **REPORTED** | |
| now | yesterday | then | the day before |
| here | tonight | there | that nigh |
| today | this | that day | that |
| tomorrow | these | the next day | those |

**4. Conversion of Interrogative and Imperative Direct Speech**

* The reporting verb *said or said to* is changed to *asked, demanded or inquired.*
* For yes/no questions, *if* or *whether* is used in place of *that*.

DS: Joseph *said to* Jana, “*Will you* attend the flag ceremony?”

RS: Joseph *asked* Jana *if she would* attend the flag ceremony.

* For WH questions, neither *if* is used nor any other word is added.

DS: My little brother *said* to the waitress, “What *are you* doing?”

RS: My little brother *asked* the waitress what *she was* doing.

* For imperative (command), the reporting verb *said or said to* is changed to *ordered or commanded.*

DS: The librarian *said to* me, “Keep quiet.”

RS: The librarian *ordered* me *to* keep quiet.

* For imperative (request), the reporting verb *said or said to* is changed to *requested.*

DS: He *told* me, “Please call me.”

RS: He *requested* me *to* call him.

\* Note: The use of the word “that” is optional in reported speech. Both of the following sentences are correct:

The student said that he had gained weight.

References:

English Grade 7, PIVOT IV-A Learner’s Material, Quarter 1, First Edition, 2020, pg. 21-24.

https://www.englishclub.com/grammar/sentence/type.php

**Proposed Performance Task**

***ACT IT OUT!***

**Direction:** Give three (3) lines from your favorite character/s. Then, act it out and transform those lines into reported speech.