

Reported statements

Read what you wrote about **reported statements** in your notebook and the information on the British Council websites you have worked on and do the following exercise. (γράψε τις απαντήσεις στο τετράδιό σου ή πάνω στο εκτυπωμένο φύλλο εργασίας)

Exercise A: Turn the following sentences into reported speech.

1. "I think I should learn more about endangered species," said Jane.
2. "The children are watching documentaries on climate change tomorrow," said Mrs Smith.
3. "Suzanne has decided to support Greenpeace," Peter told me.
4. "You need to wear clothes that are comfortable and suit your personality," said tania's mother to her daughter.
5. "He is an absolute genius when it comes to computers," said Mary.
6. "We are visiting a conservation park next week to learn about the importance of their work," said our teacher.
7. "Cynthia has worked to protect sea turtles since 1997," said Paul.
8. "Money doesn't always equal happiness or result in a satisfying life," says my father.
9. "Mary donated money to WWF a few weeks ago," said Peter.
10. "If I study hard, I will do well in my exams," said Helen.
11. "If I were you, I would exercise more," said John.

Reported statements

Read what you wrote about **reported** questions in your notebook and the information on the British Council websites you have worked on and do the following exercise. (γράψε τις απαντήσεις στο τετράδιό σου ή πάνω στο εκτυπωμένο φύλλο εργασίας)

Exercise B: Yesterday, newspaper reporter Lucy Jones interviewed a famous actress. She asked her the following **questions**. Turn them into **reported questions**, using the verbs provided, as in the example.

1. "Where were you born and raised?" (**want to know**)
Lucy wanted to know where she was born and raised.
2. "When did you play in your first movie?" (**ask**)
3. "Have you always wanted to be a big star?" (**inquire**)
4. "What do you like about your job?" (**want to know**)
5. "Which movie from the ones you have starred in is your favourite?" (**wonder**)
6. "How do you picture your career ten years from today?" (**ask**)
7. "Which actors do you enjoy working with?" (**want to know**)
8. "Would you ever decide to act in the theatre?" (**ask**)

Reported commands/Requests/Suggestions, etc.

To report commands, requests, suggestions, instructions, etc., we use a special introductory verb followed by a to-infinitive, -ing form or that clause, depending on the introductory verb.

Introductory verb	Direct speech	Reported speech
+ to-infinitive		
agree *claim demand offer *promise refuse *threaten	<i>"Yes, I will let you borrow my car."</i> <i>"I know who broke the vase."</i> <i>"I want to see my sister now."</i> <i>"Would you like me to do the shopping?"</i> <i>"I'll write soon."</i> <i>No, I won't help you."</i> <i>"Stop arguing or I won't let you play your new computer game."</i>	He agreed to let me borrow his car. She claimed to know who broke/had broken the vase. She demanded to see her sister immediately. He promised to write soon. He refused to help me. She threatened not to let them play their new computer game if they didn't stop arguing.
+sb + to-infinitive		
advise allow ask beg command encourage forbid invite order *remind *warn	<i>"You should follow the instructions."</i> <i>"You can play on the computer."</i> <i>"Please, pay more attention."</i> <i>"Please, please, let us keep the dog."</i> <i>"Fire."</i> <i>"Go on, enter the race."</i> <i>"You cannot smoke in front of the baby."</i> <i>"Will you have dinner with us?"</i> <i>"Be quiet!"</i> <i>"Don't forget to pay the bill."</i> <i>"Don't drink and drive."</i>	He advised me to follow the instructions. She allowed me to play on the computer. He asked us to pay more attention. They begged me to let them keep the dog. He commanded them to fire. She encouraged him to enter the race. She forbade me to smoke in front of the baby. He invited me to have dinner with them. She ordered us to be quiet. He reminded me to pay the bill. He warned me not to drink and drive.
+ -ing form		
accuse sb of *admit (to) apologise for *boast about/of *complain (to sb) of/about *deny *insist on *suggest	<i>"You stole my purse."</i> <i>"Yes, I lied."</i> <i>"I'm sorry I didn't warn you."</i> <i>"I have a wonderful voice."</i> <i>"I am very tired."</i> <i>"I didn't lose the money."</i> <i>"I must make you something to eat."</i> <i>"Why don't we go out for a walk?"</i>	She accused me of stealing her purse. She admitted (to) lying/having lied. He apologized for not having warned me. She boasted of/about having a wonderful voice. He complained (to me) of/about being very tired. He denied losing/having lost the money. She insisted on making me something to eat. She suggested going out for a walk.
+ that clause		
explain inform sb exclaim	<i>"It is easier to send her an email."</i> <i>"You passed your test."</i> <i>"It's a wonderful idea!"</i>	He explained that it was easier to send her an email. They informed me that I had passed my test. She exclaimed that it was a wonderful idea.

*The verbs marked with an asterisk can also be followed by a that clause in reported speech

e.g. He claimed that he was working that weekend.

Exercise C. Fill in the blanks using the following verbs in the appropriate form: say, tell, ask, accuse, boast, insist, warn, beg

1. Her parents.....on her staying indoors as there was a tornado heading their way.
2. Scientists.....the world about the effects of uncontrolled deforestation.
3. The policeman.....the man of snatching the young woman's bag.
4. David.....that he had to dress the wound immediately.
5. He.....them that a recycling scheme would be starting in their area soon.
6. Jo.....about her designer label clothes and accessories.
7. Ecologists.....the government to act so as to prevent global warming.
8. The student.....his teacher what 'biodiversity' meant.

Modals in Reported speech

Modals change as follows: will/shall → **would**, can → **could** (present reference)/**would be able to** (future reference), may → **might/could**, shall → **should** (asking for advice)/**would** (asking for information)/**offer** (expressing offers), must → **must/had to** (obligation) (* 'must' remains the same when it expresses possibility or deduction), needn't → **didn't need to/didn't have to** (present reference)/**wouldn't have to** (future reference).

Exercise D. Turn the following sentences into reported speech:

1. The teacher said, "Next week we will begin recycling all our scrap paper."
2. The policeman said, "You must shred all important papers and not just throw them away."
3. The ecologist said, "People cannot continue abusing the environment without facing the repercussions."
4. Jenny asked, "Shall I alter my old dress or buy a new one?"
5. He said, "We should try to recycle paper and plastic more consistently."
6. She said, "I may become a member of an environmental group."
7. Mary said, "You needn't replace the mouse. You can just use the touch pad."