

## REPORTED SPEECH ( DIRECT /INDIRECT SPEECH)

**# Direct speech:** In this speech, the actual words spoken by the speaker have been kept within inverted commas.

Example- He said to me, “ You are great.”

**# Indirect speech:** In indirect speech , the meaning or the sense of the words spoken by a speaker are conveyed by some other person.

Example: He told me that I was great.

### General rules for changing direct into indirect speech:

- **CHANGE IN PRONOUNS**

While converting into indirect speech the pronouns within inverted commas change as per the following table:

DIRECT	-	INDIRECT
I	-	HE/SHE
ME	-	HIM/HER
MY/MINE	-	HIS/HER
YOU	-	I/HE/SHE/WE/THEY
YOUR	-	MY/HIS/HER/OUR/ THEIR
WE	-	THEY
OUR	-	THEIR

- **CHANGES IN ADVERB OF TIME AND PLACE**

DIRECT	-	INDIRECT
THIS	-	THAT
THESE	-	THOSE
HERE	-	THERE
NOW	-	THEN
TODAY	-	THAT DAY
TONIGHT	-	THAT NIGHT
TOMORROW	-	THE NEXT DAY
YESTERDAY	-	THE PREVIOUS DAY
AGO	-	BEFORE
LAST WEEK	-	THE PREVIOUS WEEK

- **CHANGE IN TENSES**

1. If the reporting verb is in the present tense or future tense, the tense of direct speech does not change. However, change in pronouns take place as per rules.
2. The tense of the direct speech does not change if the reported speech conveys universal truth.
3. If the reporting verb is in the past tense, the tense of the direct speech changes according to the given table:

<b>DIRECT</b>	-	<b>INDIRECT</b>
Is/am/are	-	was/were
Has/have	-	had
Was/were	-	had been
Will/shall	-	would/should
May/can	-	might/could
Simple present	-	simple past
Present continuous	-	past continuous
Present perfect	-	past perfect
Present perfect continuous	-	past perfect continuous
Simple past	-	past perfect
Past continuous	-	Past perfect continuous

Note: The inverted commas used in Direct speech is removed in indirect speech and “**that**” conjunction is used.