

Reported speech

Statements



Direct speech vs Indirect (Reported) speech

- Direct: „I want an ice-cream.“ Peter said.
- Indirect (reported): Peter said he wanted an ice-cream
- Usage: when we say what someone else has said/done etc.



Shifts

- Reported speech is special for its shifts in tenses and vocab and is very very tricky
- Tenses: always go one down
- Direct Present simple -> Reported Past simple
- “I want an ice-cream” he said.
- He said he wanted an ice-cream.
- = same meaning



Tense shift scale

- Present simple -> Past simple
 - Present continuous -> Past continuous
 - Present perfect
 - Present perfect cont. →
 - Past simple →
 - Past continuous →
- Past perfect or
past perfect cont.



Modal shifts

- Will – would
 - Can – could
 - Shall – should
 - Must – had to
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- Past modals stay the same: He said he must have done it



One exception

- Things in present simple that are always true CAN stay the same:
- „I like ice-cream.“ she said.
- With no further context it means she liked it and will like it forever, therefore these two version can be used:
- She said she likes ice-cream.
- OR ... she said she liked ice-cream.



Vocab shifts

- Now - then
- Today – that day
- Tomorrow – the next day (following day)
- Yesterday – the day before
- Next week – the following week
- Last week – the previous week
- Two weeks ago – two weeks before



Vocab shifts

- This – that
- These – those
- Also, pronouns change adequately
- „This is my favourite ice-cream this year.“ he said.
- He said that was his favourite ice-cream that year.

