

## XV DIRECT AND INDIRECT SPEECH

*Choose the correct word from those in brackets to fill the blank in each sentence.*

- 1 He often **says** things like that. (says/tells)
- 2 She always **tells** me her troubles. (says/tells)
- 3 The children always **ask** me if they can go out to play. (tell/ask)
- 4 They **asked** me to leave. (said/asked)
- 5 "Don't do that!" she **said** to them. (said/told/asked)
- 6 "They've arrived," she **said**. (said/told/asked)
- 7 "How are you both?" she **asked**. (told/asked)
- 8 I **said** that I didn't know what to do. (said/told/asked)
- 9 She **told** me she didn't know what to do. (said/told/asked)
- 10 They **asked** if I knew what to do. (said/told/asked)

*Put in the correct forms and tenses of the expressions in brackets.*

The nurse asked me if I (*be*) **was** next and she led me into Dr Grey's surgery. Dr Grey smiled at me and asked (*what the problem be*) **what the problem was**. I'm a young man and am not the sort of person she has to see very often! I told her I (*be*) **was/had been** feeling rather run down. She asked me if I (*keep*) **kept/had kept/had been keeping** regular hours and I said I (*have not*) **hadn't/hadn't been**. She wanted to know why I (*not/keep*) **didn't keep/hadn't kept/hadn't been keeping** regular hours and I said I (*be*) **was/had been** out with friends almost every evening. Dr Grey then wanted to know how I (*spend*) **spent/had spent/had been spending** my time and I (*tell*) **told** her I (*go*) **went/had gone/had been going** to parties mostly. The doctor asked if I (*not/have*) **did not have/had not had** the chance to recover during weekends and I (*tell*) **told** her that my party-going (*be*) **was/had been** even worse during the weekends! She asked me if I (*smoke*) **smoked**. When I said I did, she asked how many cigarettes a day I (*smoke*) **smoked**. She raised her eyebrows when I answered! Then she asked me if I (*take*) **took/had taken/had been taking** any exercise and I answered that I (*not/have*) **did not have/hadn't had** time for that sort of thing. "You're burning the candle at both ends, Mr Finley," she told me. "Rest is the only cure for you. You've really got to slow down." She looked at me wistfully before I left her surgery and added, "but I do envy you the life you've been living!"