

DIRECT AND INDIRECT SPEECH



CHANGE OF SPEECH



Suma said to Samarth, "I am sending a letter now."

Change of Reporting Verb

①

Change of Personal Pronoun

②

Change of Tense form

③

Change of Nouns to Pronouns

④

Suma told Samarth that she was sending a letter then.

ASSERTIVE SENTENCE

Suma said to Samarth, "Are you sending a letter now?"

Change of Reporting Verb

①

Change of Personal Pronoun

②

Change of Tense form

③

Change of Nouns to Pronouns

④

Suma asked Samarth if he was sending a letter then.

INTERROGATIVE SENTENCE

Suma said to Samarth, "Please, send a letter now."

Change of Reporting Verb

①

Change of Verb form

②

Change of Nouns to Pronouns

③

Suma requested Samarth kindly to send a letter then.

IMPERATIVE SENTENCE

Direct Speech

Simple Present

"She wants an ice-cream"

Present Continuous

"She is singing."

Present Perfect

"He has seen the film."

Past Simple

"He bought a new CD."

Past Continuous

"I was feeding the cat."

Future (Will)

"I will give her the book tomorrow."

Can

"I can dance very well."

May

"She may go to school."

Must

"You must do your homework."

Reported Speech

Simple Past

She said she wanted an ice-cream.

Past Continuous

She said she was singing.

Past Perfect

She said he had seen the film.

Past Perfect

She said he had bought a new CD the day before.

Past Perfect Continuous

He said he had been feeding the cat.

Conditional (Would)

He said he would give her the book the next day.

Could

She said she could dance very well.

Might

He said he might go to school.

Had to

She said he had to do his homework

RULES

- ◉ We have to incorporate FOUR major changes while transforming a Direct Speech sentence into an Indirect Speech sentence.
 - 1. Change of Reporting Verb:**

Reporting verb, i.e. the verb outside the inverted commas, has to be changed depending upon the sentence within the inverted commas. (The Tense of these verbs doesn't change.)

A. If the sentence within the inverted commas is "Assertive" the reporting verb (said) changes as : told, replied, answered, stated, declared, narrated, described, communicated, reported etc.

B. If the sentence within the inverted commas is "Interrogative" the reporting verb (said) changes as : asked, questioned, enquired, inquired, interrogated etc.

C. If the sentence within the inverted commas is "Imperative" the reporting verb (said) changes as : requested, ordered, advised, commanded, appealed, directed, guided, etc.

D. If the sentence within the inverted commas is "Exclamatory" the reporting verb (said) changes as : exclaimed with joy /surprise/ wonder or cried with pain / sorrow



2. CHANGE OF PERSONAL PRONOUNS:

- When the reporter uses "I", it refers to him. If he uses other pronouns, they refer to different persons.
- So there is a need to change the persons. They change as :
Direct Speech Indirect Speech
I Person (I / We) CHANGES INTO He / She / It / They
II Person (You / You) CHANGES INTO He / She / It / They / I / We / You
III Person (He / She) CHANGES INTO He (.....) / She (.....) / (It / They) It (.....) / They(.....)

3 CHANGE OF TENSE FORMS:

- If the Reporting Verb is in the Present Tense or Future Tense then there is no change in the tense of the Reported Speech.
- Suma says to Samarth , "I write letters."
Suma tells Samarth that she writes letters.
- Suma will say to Samarth , "I write letters."
Suma will tell Samarth that she writes letters.
- If the Reporting Verb is in the Past Tense then the tense of the Reported Speech will change as :
Simple Present CHANGES INTO Simple Past
Present Continuous CHANGES INTO Past Continuous
Present Perfect CHANGES INTO Past Perfect
Present Perfect Continuous CHANGES INTO Past Perfect Continuous
Simple Past CHANGES INTO Past Perfect
Past Continuous CHANGES INTO Past Perfect Continuous
Past Perfect REMAINS Past Perfect
Past Perfect Continuous REMAINS Past Perfect Continuous

◦

◎ **Examples:**

Suma said to Samarth , "I write letters."
Suma told Samarth that she wrote letters.
In Future Tense "Will" and "Shall" change into "Would" and sometimes in "Should".
"Can" into "Could" and "May" into "Might".
No other change.

There is an exception to this rule. If the sentence is a UNIVERSAL TRUTH then the tense should not be changed. e.g.,
Suma said to Samarth , "Blood is red."
Suma told Samarth that blood is red.

◉ . **Change of Nearness to Remoteness:**

When the reporter refers to a thing near to him it is certainly in a distance to us. So, the things which are near in the Direct Speech may become far in the Reported Speech as:

Direct Speech CHANGES TO Reported Speech

This / That CHANGES TO That

These / Those CHANGES TO Those

Here / There CHANGES TO There

Now / Then CHANGES TO Then

Thus CHANGES TO So

Today CHANGES TO That day

Tonight CHANGES TO That night

This week CHANGES TO That week

Yesterday CHANGES TO The day before / The previous day

Last week CHANGES TO The previous week

Tomorrow CHANGES TO The following day

Next week CHANGES TO The following week

ASSERTIVE SENTENCES

Suma said to Samarth , "I write letters to my friends."
Suma told Samarth that she wrote letters to her friends.

- Suma said to Samarth , "I am writing letters to my friends."
Suma told Samarth that she was writing letters to her friends.
- Suma said to Samarth , "I have written letters to my friends."
Suma told Samarth that she had written letters to her friends.
- Suma said to Samarth , "I have been writing letters to my friends."
Suma told Samarth that she had been writing letters to her friends.
- Suma said to Samarth , "I wrote letters to my friends."
Suma told Samarth that she had written letters to her friends.
- Suma said to Samarth , "I was writing letters to my friends."
Suma told Samarth that she had been writing letters to her friends.
- Suma said to Samarth , "I had written letters to my friends."
Suma told Samarth that she had written letters to her friends.
- Suma said to Samarth , "I had been writing letters to my friends."
Suma told Samarth that she had been writing letters to her friends

- ◉ Suma said to Samarth , "I shall write letters to my friends."
Suma told Samarth that she would write letters to her friends.
- ◉ Suma said to Samarth , "I shall be writing letters to my friends."
Suma told Samarth that she would be writing letters to her friends.
- ◉ Suma said to Samarth , "I shall have written letters to my friends."
Suma told Samarth that she would have written letters to her friends.
- ◉ Suma said to Samarth , "I shall have been writing letters to my friends."
Suma told Samarth that she would have been writing letters to her friends.
- ◉ Suma said to Samarth , "I can write letters to my friends."
Suma told Samarth that she could write letters to her friends.
- ◉ Suma said to Samarth , "I have to write letters to my friends."
Suma told Samarth that she had to write letters to her friends.
- ◉

- ◉ Suma said to Samarth, "This is our house. You can come here whenever you want"
Suma told Samarth that that was their house and he could go there whenever he wanted.
- ◉ Tapan said , "I did not lead the ox into the classroom."
Tapan said that he had not led the ox into the classroom.
- ◉ Tapan said , "It is true that I threw stones at Haren's shop."
Tapan said that it was true that he had thrown stones at Haren's shop.

◉ INTERROGATIVE SENTENCES

- ◉
Sudha said to Sumanth , "Why are you laughing loudly?"
Sudha asked Sumanth why he (Sumanth) was laughing loudly.
- ◉
Andy said to the postmaster, "Will you give me the letter?"
Andy asked the postmaster if he (postmaster) would give him (Andy) the letter.
- ◉
The postmaster said to Andy, "Who do you want it for?"
The postmaster asked Andy who he wanted it for.
- ◉
"Do you think I am a fool ?" said Andy to the postmaster.
Andy asked the postmaster if he (postmaster) thought that he (Andy) was a fool.
- ◉
Mr Durfy said to the postmaster, "Have you one for me?"
Mr Durfy asked the postmaster if he had one for him.
- ◉
The author said to the cricketer, "Which is your greatest test match?"
The author asked the cricketer which his greatest test match was.
- ◉

- ◉ **IMPERATIVE SENTENCES**



Asha said to Vishwanath , " Give me a pen."
Asha requested Vishwanath to give her a pen.



Rowland said , " Bring the poker here."
Rowland ordered Jove to bring the poker there.



The headmaster said to Mohan , " Bring Tapan of class V."
The headmaster ordered Mohan to bring Tapan of class V.



Tapan said , " Don't hurt dumb animals."
Tapan requested (them) not to hurt dumb animals.



The policeman said , " Take out your identity card. I want to see it."
The policeman ordered (the student) to take out his (the student's) identity card because he (the policeman) wanted to see it.



Mohan said , "Ravi, Give up drinking. You will be healthy."
Mohan advised Ravi to give up drinking so that he (Ravi) would be healthy.



◉ EXCLAMATORY SENTENCES

- ◉
Suhail said , "Hurrah! India has won the series against England."
Suhail exclaimed with joy that India had won the series against England.
- ◉
Miss Spoorthy said , "Aah! I cut my finger."
Miss Spoorthy cried with pain that she had cut her finger.
- ◉
Kareena said , "Oh! It is very cold outside."
Kareena exclaimed with surprise that it was very cold outside.
- ◉
Priya said , "What a cold night it is !" (It is a cold night.)
Priya exclaimed with wonder that it was a cold night.
- ◉
Veeresh said , "Wah! She is very beautiful."
Veeresh exclaimed with surprise that she was very beautiful.
- ◉
Girish said , "How beautiful she is !" (She is very beautiful.)
Girish exclaimed with wonder that she was very beautiful.

MOST LIKELY QUESTIONS

- ◉ "I have come for that letter," he (Andy) said.
Andy told (the postmaster) that he had come for that letter.
- ◉ "I am glad to hear it," said the postmaster.
The postmaster replied that he was glad to hear it.
- ◉ "That old cheat wanted to charge double for it," said Andy.
Andy complained that that old cheat had wanted to charge double for it.
- ◉ The postmaster said to Andy, "You have to pay me eleven - pence."
The postmaster told Andy that he(Andy) had to pay him (the postmaster) eleven - pence.
- ◉ Squire Egan said, "It may be a double letter."
Squire Egan said that it might be a double letter.
- ◉ "Here's a letter for the squire," said the postmaster.
The postmaster said that there was a letter for the squire.
- ◉ The postmaster said to Andy, "Is there anyone in the town who knows you?"
The postmaster enquired Andy if there was anyone in the town who knew him (Andy)"

◉

- Andy said, "My master will murder if I am not back soon."
Andy said that his master would murder if he was not back soon.
- Andy said to his master, "I don't like to be troublesome, sir."
Andy said to his master (politely) that he did not like to be troublesome.
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- The postmaster said to Andy, "I'll attend to you by and by."
The postmaster told Andy that he (postmaster) would attend to him (Andy) by and by.
- Andy said to the postmaster, "Have you anything to say about it."
Andy asked the postmaster if he (postmaster) had anything to say about it.
- Daksha said to her father, "Didn't the guards stop you at the gates?"
Daksha asked her father if the guards had not stopped him at the gates.
- The King said, "Is there no one who can venture an answer?"
The king asked if there was no (any) one who could venture an answer.
- The king said to the farmer, "Come to the court with your daughter tomorrow."
The king ordered / asked the farmer to come to the court with his daughter the following day.
- The courtiers said, "We shall certainly solve it."
The courtiers said that they would certainly solve it.
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- Daksha said to her father, "I will give you some boiled beans tomorrow."
Daksha told her father that she would give him some boiled beans the following day.
- The King said, "Daksha, my whole kingdom is proud of you!"
The King (appreciated and) told Daksha that his whole kingdom was proud of her.
- The King said, "Daksha, I'll permit you to take away anything you like as a prize."
The King told Daksha that he would permit her to take away anything she liked as a prize.
- Daksha said, "I am taking away my prize."
Daksha said that she was taking away her prize.
- The King said, "Where has all your wit gone, my dear ministers?"
The King asked his dear ministers where all their wit had gone.
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- Chandrashekar said to the young cricketers, "Have an aim in life. Work hard with dedication." Chandrashekar advised the young cricketers to have an aim in life and to work hard with dedication.
- The author said to Chandrashekar, "Who do you think is the finest batsman at the moment?" The author asked Chandrashekar who he thought was the finest batsman at the moment.
- Chandrashekar said, "I have a passion for the game. That led me to persevere." Chandrashekar said that he had a passion for the game and that had led him to persevere.