

Reported Speech

Multiple Choice Questions

Directions (Qs. 1 to 5): Tick the best answer.

1. When reporting a statement we use the reporting verb:
(a) asked (b) requested
(c) said and told (d) said and answered
2. When changing from direct to indirect speech, we also change the:
(a) number (b) gender
(c) tenses (d) all of the above
3. While asking questions the reporting verb 'say' or 'said' is changed to:
(a) told (b) asked or questioned
(c) answered (d) exclaimed
4. While answering a question, the reporting verb _____ may be used.
(a) said (b) answered or replied
(c) told (d) pleaded
5. In direct narration it is essential to put a/an _____ after the reporting verb.
(a) dash (b) comma
(c) inverted comma (d) colon

Directions (Qs. 6 to 10): The following sentences have been changed into reported speech. Choose the correct sentence:

6. He said. "I shall come in a few minutes".
(a) He said he will come. (b) He said that he would come in a few minutes.
(c) He said I will come. (d) I will come he said.
7. He said. "It is raining heavily."
(a) He said it is raining,
(b) It is raining he said.
(c) He said that it was raining heavily
(d) He said that it rained.
8. He said to me, "Please save my life."
(a) Please save his life he said.
(b) My life please save he said to me.
(c) He said to save my life.
(d) He requested me to save his life.
9. The teacher said to her, "Do you notice any change?"
(a) The teacher asked her if she noticed any change.
(b) The teacher said did she notice any change?
(c) She asked if she find any change?
(d) To her the teacher said if she find any change?

10. The manager said to her "Obey your seniors."
(a) He said her to obey seniors.
(b) The manager advised her to obey her seniors.
(c) Seniors should be obeyed he told her.
(d) He asked if she obey her seniors.

Directions (Qs. 11 to 15): Which indirect narration matches correctly with the given direct speech? Tick the correct answer.

11. Shiva said, "I have done my best."
(a) Shiva says that I have done my best.
(b) Shiva says that he have done his best.
(c) Shiva said that he had done his best.
(d) Shiva said he had done his best.
12. "I feel very tired", mother said to Anju.
(a) Mother told Anju that she felt very tired.
(b) Mother told to Anju that she felt very tired.
(c) Mother said to Anju that she felt very tired.
(d) Mother told Anju that she feels very tired.
13. The children said, 'What a lovely place!'
(a) The children said that it was a lovely place.
(b) The children exclaimed that it was a lovely place.
(c) The children exclaimed that it is a lovely place.
(d) The children shouted that it is a lovely place.
14. My uncle said. "What have brought for me?"
(a) My uncle said to me what I had brought from him.
(b) My uncle said what I have brought for him.
(c) My uncle asked me what I had brought for him.
(d) My uncle asked me what I have brought for him.
15. The waiter said to Mr. Raj, 'Would you like tea or coffee, sir?'
(a) The waiter asked Mr. Raj if he would like tea or coffee.
(b) The waiter asked Mr. Raj whether he would like tea or coffee.
(c) The waiter asks Mr. Raj if he will like tea or coffee.
(d) Both (a) and (b)

Directions (Qs. 16 to 19): Tick the statement which has an error.

16. (a) Ravi said, I have many pets.
(b) Ravi said, "I have many pets".
(c) Ravi said that he had many pets.
(d) Ravi says that he has many pets.
17. (a) My mother warned me. "don't ever tell lies."
(b) "Don't ever tell lies", my mother warned me.
(c) My mother warned me not to tell lies.
(d) My mother warned me/"Don't ever tell lies."
18. (a) The teacher said that she has finished the syllabus.
(b) The teacher said that she had finished the syllabus.
(c) The teacher said, "I have finished the syllabus."
(d) The teacher says that she has finished the syllabus.

19. (a) The coach said that. "I'm happy with their performance."
(b) The coach said that he was happy with their performance.
(c) The coach said, "I am happy with their performance."
(d) "I'm happy with their performance." the coach said.

Directions (Qs. 20 to 27): Fill in the blanks with the correct option.

Mihir __ (20) __ Elena good morning and said that it __ (21) __ a surprise to see her so early in the morning. Elena __ (22) __ Mihir and __ (23) __ him since how long he __ (24) __ Jogging. Mihir __ (25) __ that he __ (26) __ jogging for nearly an hour and it __ (27) __ time to go home.

20. (a) wish (b) wished
(c) wishes (d) is wishing
21. (a) is (b) was
(c) were (d) are
22. (a) greet (b) greets
(c) greeted (d) is greeting
23. (a) ask (b) asks
(c) asked (d) will ask
24. (a) have (b) has
(c) had (d) is been
25. (a) answers (b) answered
(c) answer (d) will answer
26. (a) was (b) has
(c) had (d) have been
27. (a) was (b) is
(c) were (d) are

Directions (Qs. 28 to 35): Make reported speech. Start all your answers with 'she', and use the past simple of 'ask', 'say' or 'tell'. It's the same day, so you don't need to change the time expressions.

28. "Come quickly!"
(a) She told me to come quickly,
(b) Quickly she told come to me.
(c) Told me she to come quickly,
(d) Come quickly she tell me.
29. "Did you arrive before seven?"
(a) I had arrived she asked me if before seven.
(b) She asked me if I had arrived before seven.
(c) She asked me since you arrived before time.
(d) Did you asked me to arrive before time.
30. "How was your holiday?"
(a) She said how was your holidays.
(b) How was your holidays have been she asked.
(c) She asked me how my holiday had been.
(d) Asked she me how my holiday had been.

31. "I would have visited the hospital, if I had known you were sick."
(a) She said that she would have visited the hospital, if she had known I was sick.
(b) Visited the hospital. She said that she would have if she had known I was sick
(c) she would have visited if she had known the hospital I was sick she said that.
(d) Said that she would have visited, if she had known I was sick the hospital she.
32. "Don't touch!"
(a) Do not touch she said. (b) Said she do not touch.
(c) She told me not to touch, (d) Not to touch.
33. "Do you usually cook at home?"
(a) Asked me if I usually cooked she at home.
(b) She asked me if I usually cooked at home.
(c) I usually cooked at home asked she me.
(d) Cooked at home I usually she asked me.
34. "They had never been to Scotland until last year."
(a) She said that they had never been to Scotland until last year.
(b) Been to Scotland until last year they had never last year.
(c) Scotland until last year they had never been said she.
(d) None of the above.
35. "I should have studied harder for the exam."
(a) She should have studied harder she said that for the exam.
(b) Studied harder she said that for the exam she should have.
(c) She said that she should have studied harder for the exam.
(d) None of the above.

Directions (Qs. 36 to 45): Choose the correct answer.

36. Rosa asked Jose. "Have you been studying English?"
(a) Rosa asked Jose when you study English.
(b) Rosa asked Jose if he had studied English.
(c) Rosa asked Jose if he had been studying English.
(d) Rosa asked Jose if he was studying English.
37. Roshan asked me. "May I borrow your English dictionary?"
(a) Roshan asked me if she may borrow my English dictionary.
(b) Roshan asked me if she might borrow my English dictionary.
(c) Roshan asked me if I could borrow her English dictionary.
(d) Roshan asked me if I had borrowed her English dictionary.
38. Jay said to Krishan. "Are you going to visit Cambodia?"
(a) Jay asked Krishan if he is going to visit Cambodia.
(b) Jay asked Krishan if he had visited Cambodia.
(c) Jay asked Krishan if he had gone to Cambodia.
(d) Jay asked Krishan if he was going to visit Cambodia.
39. The teacher said to the students. "Stand up on the bench!"
(a) The teacher ordered the students that stand up on the bench.
(b) The teacher ordered the students stand up on the bench.
(c) The teacher ordered the students to stand up on the bench.
(d) The teacher ordered the students stood up on the bench.

40. The teacher said, "Don't come to school on Monday because it is a holiday!"
 (a) The teacher asked to us to don't come to school on Monday because it is a holiday.
 (b) The teacher asked if we were coming to school on Monday because it is a holiday.
 (c) The teacher told to us don't come to school on Monday because it is a holiday.
 (d) The teacher told us not to come to school on Monday because it is a holiday.
41. The teacher said. "Review exercises two and three for the test!"
 (a) The teacher told us to review exercises two and three for the test.
 (b) The teacher told to us to review exercises two and three for the test.
 (c) The teacher asked if we were going to review exercises two and three for the test.
 (d) The teacher said us to review exercises two and three for the test.
42. Anita said. "Don't listen to Mr. Bishan Das because he is not an honest person!"
 (a) Anita asked us not to listen to Mr. Bishan Das because he is not an honest person.
 (b) Anita said that Mr. Bishan Das is not an honest person.
 (c) Anita said not to listen to Mr. Bishan Das because he is not an honest person.
 (d) Anita told to us to don't listen to Mr. Bishan Das because he is not an honest person.
43. He said to me. Hurrah! "I have won the match".
 (a) He exclaimed with happiness that he has won the match.
 (b) He exclaimed with happiness that he had won the match.
 (c) He exclaimed with sorrow that he has won the match.
 (d) He exclaimed with surprise that he has won the match.
44. Salena said to Rani. "You should visit Shimla in the summer."
 (a) Salena asked Rani if she was visiting Shimla in the summer.
 (b) Salena told Rani that she should visit Shimla in the summer.
 (c) Salena told Rani if she should visit Shimla in the summer.
 (d) Salena asked Rani where she should visit in Shimla this summer.
45. Harold said, "Please, don't bring sodas near the computers!"
 (a) Harold requested not to bring sodas near the computers.
 (b) Harold asked us if we were bringing sodas near the computers.
 (c) Harold told to us that we had brimmed sodas near the computers.
 (d) Harold said to bring sodas near the computers.

Directions (Qs. 46 to 49): Read the following conversation and tick the correct option in the passage given below:

Teacher: Why are you late? Have you no clock in your house?

Anu: Sorry Ma'am.

Teacher: Be punctual or you will be punished.

The teacher asked Anu __ (46) __ and exclaimed that __ (47) __ house. Anu replied that __ (48) __. The teacher said that she __ (49) __.

46. (a) why was she late (b) why she was late
 (c) why she is late (d) why are you fate
47. (a) she had no clock in her house
 (b) she has no clock in her house
 (c) she don't have a clock in her house
 (d) she doesn't have a clock in her
48. (a) she was sorry (b) I am sorry
 (c) she is sorry (d) she were sorry

- 49.** (a) wanted her to be punctual or she would be punished
(b) wants her to be punctual or she will be punished
(c) will want her to be punctual or she will be punished
(d) is wanting her to be punctual or she will punish her

Answers with Explanations

1. (b) Not available
2. (c) Not available
3. (b) Not available
4. (b) Not available
5. (b) Not available
6. (b) Not available
7. (c) Not available
8. (d) Not available
9. (a) Not available
10. (b) Not available
11. (c) Because with the reporting verb in the past tense we change the helping verb also to past tense. Here, 'have' becomes 'had'.
12. (a) Most appropriate because 'told' is also short for 'said to' and helping verb 'feel' is changed to 'felt' (past tense) according to the reporting verb 'said'.
13. (b) Since it is an exclamatory sentence, the reporting verb 'exclaimed' should be used and 'is' changes to 'was' as it is past tense.
14. (c) Since it is a question, the reporting verb "asked" is used here and past tense is denoted by the verb 'had'.
15. (d) Both the first and second statements are true because 'if' or 'whether' is used when reporting a question or asking a choice. That is never used when reporting a question.
16. (a) Inverted commas are missing.
17. (a) The part within inverted commas should begin with a capital letter.
18. (a) The helping verb 'has' should be in the past tense because reporting verb is in the past.
19. (a) The conjunction 'that' is not used in direct narration.
20. (b) Not available
21. (b) Not available
22. (c) Not available
23. (c) Not available
24. (c) Not available
25. (b) Not available

26. (c) Not available

27. (a) Not available

28. (a) Not available

29. (b) Not available

30. (c) Not available

31. (a) Not available

32. (c) Not available

33. (b) Not available

34. (a) Not available

35. (c) Not available

36. (c) Not available

37. (b) Not available

38. (d) Not available

39. (c) Not available

40. (d) Not available

41. (a) Not available

42. (d) Not available

43. (b) Not available

44. (b) Not available

45. (a) Not available

46. to 49. The passage is in reported speech, therefore, the past tense and past continuous tense have to be used.

46. (a) Not available

47. (a) Not available

48. (a) Not available

49. (a) The whole conversation has to be reported in the past tense.