

Indirect Speech

7. They said, "Our yacht is the most expensive in the harbour."

8. She said, "I made this outfit a fortnight ago."

9. Sue said to me, "I'm having an interview for a job on Thursday."

10. Martin said, "I'll see you when you get back."

B. Questions

When we turn Direct questions into Indirect Speech, the following changes are necessary:

1. **tenses, pronouns and adverbs of time and place change as in statements.**
2. **the interrogative form of the verb changes into the affirmative form.**
3. **the introductory verb say must be changed into a verb of inquiry, such as ask, wonder, inquire, want to know, etc.**
4. **When the Direct Question begins with a question word (Who, How, When, Where, Why, What etc.) the question word remains in the Indirect form.** When there is no question word, **if or whether** must be used. "If" introducing indirect questions can be followed by **will / would**.

Direct speech

"What time is it?" she asked me.

"Do you eat meat?" he asked her.

"Will you come with us?" he said to me.

Indirect speech

She asked me **what time it was**.

He asked her **if/whether she ate meat**.

He asked me **if I would go with them**.

186 Turn the following sentences into Indirect speech.

1. "Will you help me to move this furniture?" the woman asked her husband.

2. "How much money do you have?" the thief asked the man.

3. "Why did you run away from me?" he asked her.

4. "Did you really write this poem?" his mother asked him.

5. "How did the operation go?" the patient asked the surgeon.

6. "Does anyone own this dog?" the woman asked the bystanders.

7. "Will you be going on holiday next Easter?" his friend asked.

8. "Is that your daughter walking on the wall, Mary?" Joan asked her.

9. "Why are you acting this way?" she asked him.

10. "Where do you go to school?" the man asked her.