

## REPORTED SPEECH

### Basic tense chart

present simple I'm a teacher.	past simple He said he <b>was</b> a teacher
present continuous I'm having lunch with my parents.	past continuous. He said he <b>was</b> having lunch with his parents.
present perfect simple I've been to France three times.	past perfect simple He said he <b>had</b> been to France three times.
past simple I bought a new car.	past perfect He said he had bought a new car.
past continuous It was raining earlier.	past perfect continuous He said it had been raining earlier.
past perfect The play had started when I arrived.	past perfect NO CHANGE POSSIBLE

### Other verb forms

will I'll come and see you soon.	would He said he would come and see me soon.
can I <b>can</b> swim under water for two minutes.	could He said he could swim under water for two minutes.
shall What <b>shall</b> we do about it?	should He asked what we should do about it.
may <b>May</b> I smoke?	might He asked if he might smoke.

Things are slightly more complicated with imperatives.

positive imperative Shut up!	tell + infinitive He <b>told</b> me <b>to</b> shut up.
negative imperative Don't do that again!	tell + not + infinitive He <b>told</b> me <b>not to</b> do it again.
imperatives as requests Please give me some money.	ask + infinitive He <b>asked</b> me <b>to</b> give him some money.

## Time and place references

now	then
today	that day
here	there
this	that
this week	that week
tomorrow	the following day the next day the day after
next week / year / month	the following week / year / month the next week / year / month the week after / year / month
yesterday	the previous day the day before
last week	the previous week the week before
ago	previously before
2 weeks ago	2 weeks previously 2 weeks before
tonight	that night
last Saturday	the previous Saturday the Saturday before
next Saturday	the following Saturday the next Saturday the Saturday after that Saturday

Examples:

I went to the theatre **last night**.

He said (that) he had gone to the theatre **the night before**.

I'm having a party **next weekend**.

He said he was having a party **the next weekend**.

I'm staying here until **next week**.

He said he was staying there until **the following week**.

I came over from London **3 years ago**.

He said he had come over from London **3 years before**.