

Intermediate GrammarPlus

A Friendly Exchange

- 1 Read this Internet chat, and find out who is going to the disco with David on Saturday.

Room 1

Chat

Emma
Have you heard from Joanne, Wendy? She told me she needed to speak to you.

Wendy
No, I haven't.

Clare
I heard from her. She said that she couldn't contact you, Wendy. But she has something important to ask you. I suggested she should wait until Monday, when we're back at school. She claimed that she had tried to call you a million times on Friday.

Wendy
Really! Let me guess. She told you I'm her new best friend and she wants some ideas for getting me a really nice birthday present!

Clare
Ha! Ha! 😊. Me and Emma are your best friends, and don't you forget it! No, I know what she wanted to ask you but she warned me not to mention it.

Wendy
Oh come on. You've got to tell me now. That's not fair!

Emma
Yeah, tell us what Joanne wants to know.

Clare
Well, I don't know. She told me she would talk to you about it the next day. You know what she's like. If she finds out I've let the cat out of the bag, I'll be in trouble.

Wendy
I won't let on, Clare. I promise.

Clare
OK, but remember she insisted she needed to talk to YOU about it, Wendy. So when she tells you about this, you have to act all surprised.

Wendy
OK, no problem. Only the other day during Drama class you told me that I was getting quite good at acting. So here's a chance to practise.

Clare
Right here goes. You know the new boy in your class, David. Joanne said she'd decided to invite him to the disco on Sunday. She assumed that he was free but wanted to confirm this with you.

Emma
Oh, how embarrassing! David's already asked ME out to the disco on Sunday. And I said yes!



DISCOVER

Grammar 1 (Reported Speech)

- 2 Look at how, in their chat, the three friends 'report' things said on previous occasions. Compare with the equivalent direct speech version, then answer the questions in the Deductions box.
- "I **need** to speak to Wendy."
→ She told me she **needed** to speak to you.
 - "I **can't** contact Wendy."
→ She said that she **couldn't** contact you, Wendy.
 - "**Why don't** you **wait** until Monday?"
→ I suggested she **should** wait until Monday
 - "I **tried** to call her a million times on Friday."
→ She claimed that she **had tried** to call you a million times on Friday.
 - "She's my new best friend."
→ She told you I'm her new best friend.
 - "**Don't mention** it!"
→ She warned me **not to mention** it.
 - "I'll talk to her about it tomorrow."
→ She told me she **would** talk to you about it the next day.
 - "I **need** to talk to **Wendy** about it!"
→ She insisted she **needed** to talk to YOU about it Wendy.
 - "You're **getting** quite good at acting."
→ You told me that I **was getting** quite good at acting.
 - "I've **decided** to invite him to the disco on Saturday."
→ Joanne said she'd **decided** to invite him to the disco on Sunday.
 - "I'm sure he's free."
→ She assumed that he **was** free.

DEDUCTIONS

- a** Write the numbers of the sentences in which the underlined verbs are used to report:
- what somebody said and how they said it _____
 - what somebody thought _____
 - what somebody suggested _____
 - what somebody ordered or requested _____
- b** What other underlined verbs are used to indicate what somebody said?
- c** Which of the verbs for reporting statements have to mention the person spoken to?
- d** Which linking word can be omitted when reporting statements, thoughts and suggestions?
- e** Which modal can be used when reporting a suggestion?
- f** Which construction is used when reporting orders or requests?
- g** Complete the blanks in order to show examples of changes in expressions of time and verb forms.
- | direct speech | → reported speech |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| _____ | → the next day |
| Present Simple | → _____
(general truth) |
| _____ | → Past Simple |
| Present Continuous | → _____ |
| Present Perfect | → _____ |
| _____ | → Past Perfect |
| _____ | → could |
| will | → _____ |

- 3** Transform these sentences into reported speech.
- 1 "I'll go to the mall."
→ Leslie told me _____
 - 2 "I didn't have any breakfast."
→ Greg said _____
 - 3 "I'm quite sure I can take the bus to school tomorrow."
→ Hannah supposed _____
 - 4 "Get the umbrella!"
→ Julie told me _____
 - 5 "I did the test in two hours."
→ Mark claimed _____
 - 6 "I've decided to buy a new mobile phone."
→ Valerie said _____
 - 7 "You're always late for work!"
→ My boss complained that _____
 - 8 "We go for a walk in the centre every Sunday."
→ Jane said that _____



COMMUNICATE

Pair Work

- 4** Ask each other the questions below and make a note of the answers. Then 'report' what your partner said to a new partner.
- What do you remember about your first day at school?
 - What was the best holiday you have ever had?
 - What kind of things can you do that are creative?
 - What are your plans for the future?