

**11<sup>th</sup> November**  
**OET Writing – Reported Speech**

**Starter**

**Have a look at the sentences below:**

“I **will** go to the cinema **tomorrow**,” said Simon. (direct speech)

Simon told me that **he would** go to the cinema **the following day**. (reported speech)

**What differences do you notice between them?**

**When we use reported speech, we often change...**

- The tense of the original sentence
- The structure of the original sentence
- Time stamps/phrases
- Pronouns
- Some verbs

## Reporting Sentences

...said Simon	Simon told me/said (that)...
"I love Chinese food"	...he loves/loved Chinese food.
"I'm working at home"	...he was working at home.
"I'll help you now"	...he would help me then/at that moment.
"I finished the homework yesterday"	...he had finished the homework the day before/the previous day.
"I've lost my mobile"	...he had lost his mobile.
"I can't swim here"	...he couldn't swim there.
"I may/might buy a new car next week"	...he might buy a new car the following week.
"I must do my homework tonight"	...he had to do his homework that night.
"I should eat less junk food"	...he should eat less junk food.
"I'll bring my book to the lesson"	...he would take his book to the lesson.

## Reporting Imperatives

...said Tom	Tom told me...
"Don't shout!"	...not to shout.
"Stop making so much noise, please".	...to stop making so much noise.

## Reporting Questions

<b>...asked Sarah</b>	<b>Sarah asked (me)...</b>
"Are you American?"	...if/whether I was American.
"Do you have a car?"	...if/whether I had a car.
"Were you at home last night?"	...if/whether I had been at home the previous/the night before.
"Did you enjoy the party?"	...if/whether I had enjoyed the party.
"Have you been to Paris?"	...if/whether I had been to Paris.
"Where do you live?"	...where I lived.
"What time is it?"	...what time it was.
"What have you bought?"	...what I had bought.
"When did you go to Paris?"	...when I had gone to Paris.
"Are you coming to the cinema tomorrow?"	...if/whether I was going to the cinema the following day.