

Direct and indirect speech exercise

Fill in the blanks.

1. The stranger asked me I could help him.

- if
- that
- that if

2. The clerk asked the officer if he go.

- can
- could

3. The officer ordered the clerk it immediately.

- that he do
- to do

4. The doctor politely allowed the patient in

- that he come
- to come

Direct and indirect speech exercise

5. The master ordered the boy
..... that letter at once.

that he post
to post

6. The teacher forbade the boys
..... a noise.

from make
from making
from to make

7. The teacher advised the boys to work hard
..... they wanted to pass the
exam.

Please select 2 correct answers

if
whether
that

8. I warned the child
down into the well.

Direct and indirect speech exercise

not to look

to not look

not look

Answers

1. The stranger asked me if I could help him.
2. The clerk asked the officer if he could go.
3. The officer ordered the clerk to do it immediately.
4. The doctor politely allowed the patient to come in. OR The doctor politely asked the patient to come in.
5. The master ordered the boy to post that letter at once.
6. The teacher forbade the boys from making a noise.
7. The teacher advised the boys to work hard if they wanted to pass the exam.
8. I warned the child not to look down into the well.

Notes

'Please' and 'kindly' call for the use of the verb 'requested'. However, please is also used in orders and instructions. In that case, we will have to use a reporting verb like ordered, instructed or asked.