

Reported Speech Exercise

We often make a speaker's words or thoughts part of our own sentence, using conjunctions (e.g. that), and changing pronouns, tenses and other words where necessary. This kind of structure is called indirect or reported speech.

This grammar exercise tests your ability to use reported speech correctly.

Fill in the blanks.

1. Bill said that he the party.

- doesn't like
- didn't like
- didn't liked

2. I asked her she would marry me.

- that
- if
- what

3. The police inspector asked us our passports.

- show
- to show

Reported Speech Exercise

that we show

4. I wondered how

- are you
- you are
- were you
- you were

5. The government has announced that taxes
.....

- will rise
- would be raised
- will be raised

6. She said that she enough.

- has had
- had had
- have
- had

7. I I didn't intend to stand for

Reported Speech Exercise

election.

replied

replied that

Either could be used here

8. I you are probably right.

think

think that

Either could be used here

9. I I was busy.

shouted

shouted that

Either could be used here

10. He wanted to know
leaving.

when was I

when I was

when I will

Reported Speech Exercise

11. Nobody told me why
to sign the papers.

- had I
- did I have
- I had

12. I knew how

- you felt
- did you feel
- you feel

Answers

1. Bill said that he didn't like the party.
2. I asked her if she would marry me.
3. The police inspector asked us to show our passports.
4. I wondered how you were.
5. The government has announced that taxes will be raised.
6. She said that she had had enough.
7. I replied that I didn't intend to stand for election.
8. I think / think that you are probably right.
9. I shouted that I was busy.
10. He wanted to know when I was leaving.
11. Nobody told me why I had to sign the papers.
12. I knew how you felt.