

Direct and Indirect Speech

There are two ways of reporting what someone has said, direct and indirect speech.



In direct speech the speaker's words are written exactly as they were said with no changes made.

The spoken words are placed between quotation (speech) marks.

Ashleigh said, "Tomorrow I will go to the park."

Direct and Indirect Speech

Indirect speech is where the words of what has been said are changed because the words were said in the past and will be written in the past tense.



I asked my sister Jane to play with me.

What was said is not written between quotation (speech) marks. Indirect speech is sometimes called reported speech.

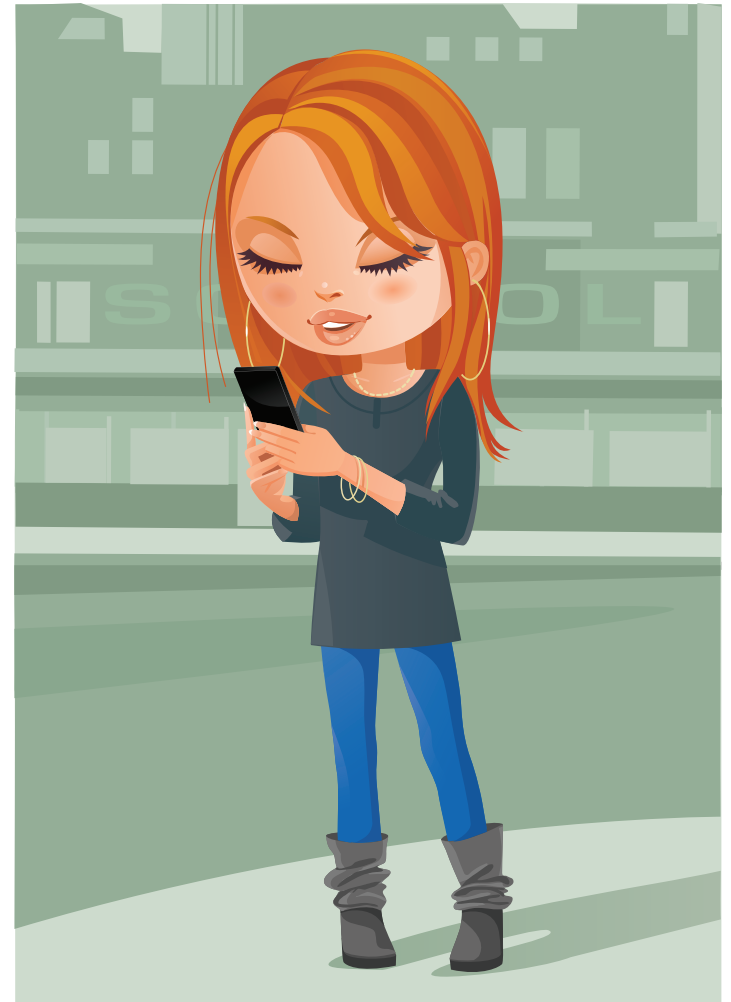
Direct and Indirect Speech

Direct speech.

She said, "I'll call Samantha."

Indirect speech.

She said that she would call Samantha.



Direct and Indirect Speech

Direct speech

He said, "I'll eat an apple."

Indirect speech

He said he would eat an apple.



Can you think of other examples of direct and indirect speech?

Direct and Indirect Speech

Direct speech

"Don't worry," he said.

Indirect speech

He told her not to worry.

Direct speech

She said, "I saw him."

Indirect speech

She said that she had seen him.

