**Reported speech**

**Use**

* We use reported speech to report someone's words from the past.

Direct speech: *'The photos are on YouTube*.'

Reported speech: *She said (that) the photos were on YouTube*.

* We can use the conjunction that in reported speech. There is no difference.

*She said the photos were on YouTube.*

*She said* ***that*** *the photos were on YouTube.*

* We can also report questions in the past.

Direct speech: *'What are you doing?*'

Reported speech: *l asked what he was doing*.

Direct speech: *'Do you think this policy will work?*'

Reported speech: *He asked if I thought the policy would work*.

* Common verbs for reporting what people have said are: *say, tell, explain, suggest, think, recall*.

Note that we don't follow ***say*** with an object.

*'I think we'll go*.'

*Sue* ***said*** *(that) she thought they would go*.

However, ***tell*** always needs ***an*** ***object***.

*'I think we'll go.'*

*Sue* ***told******me*** *(that) she thought they would go.*