

Usamos "Reported Speech" (discurso indireto) para relatar o que aconteceu em um diálogo, sem que precisemos usar aspas ou fazer citações.

O "Reported Speech" faz com que o texto fique mais bonito, organizado e fácil de ler.

Ex.: Direct Speech --> He said: "I don't want to go to school."

Reported Speech --> He said he didn't want to go to school.

Para relatar uma frase que foi dita por alguém no passado, usamos um verbo introdutório, como say, tell, explain, em sua forma no passado (said, told, explained), e depois a frase dita, com as devidas alterações de acordo com a tabela abaixo:

Direct Speech	Reported Speech	Example
Simple Present	He said: "I want oranges."	He said he wanted oranges.
Present Continuous	They said "Studying."	They were studying.
Simple Past	She said "I had decided but weren't there."	She had decided but hadn't been there.
Past Perfect	Tom said "I had been talking."	Tom had been talking.
Present Perfect	They said "We have worked together."	They had worked together.
Going to	Angela said "I am going to visit."	I was going to visit.
Must	She told "I must hurry."	She had to hurry.

Atenção!

Pronomes Pessoais, Pronomes Objetivos, Pronomes e Adjetivos Possessivos devem ser trocados de acordo com o contexto da frase:

Ex.: "I will call my father", said Angela. --> Angela said she would call her father.

Fonte: <http://www.brasilecola.com/ingles/reported-speech.htm>