

- There are no changes in the verb tenses in reported speech when the direct sentence expresses a general truth, is Type 2 or Type 3 conditional or a wish.

"The Earth is a planet," he said.

He said the Earth **is** a planet. (general truth)

"If you **studied** more, you'd **pass** your test," he said.

He said (that) if I **studied** more, I'd **pass** my test.

"I wish I **were** / **was** famous" he said.

He said he wished he **were** / **was** famous.

- When the introductory verb is in the present, future or present perfect, there are no changes in the verb tenses.

"Nina **can** read," she says.

She **says** that Nina **can** read.

- UP-TO-DATE REPORTING / OUT-OF-DATE REPORTING**

The verb tenses can change or remain the same in reported speech when a sentence expresses something which is up to date or still true when we report it. The verb tenses change when something is out of date or not true when we report it.

"I'm **travelling** to England next week," he said.

He said he **is travelling** / **was travelling** to England next week. (up-to-date reporting – immediately reported after said)

"I'm **travelling** to England in January," he said.
(Now it's February.)

He said he **was travelling** to England in January.
(The trip is over since it's February. out-of-date reporting)

"The Earth **is** flat," he said.

He said (that) the Earth **was** flat. (It isn't; not true.)

2 Report what the Jones family said when they came home from their holiday.

1. I had a brilliant time.



2. I loved wind-surfing!



3. I didn't like the food.



4. I'm not looking forward to going back to school.



5. I was getting bored of lying on the beach.



6. I've never had so much fun in my life.



7. I hope we'll go to the same place again next year.



8. I'm going to get my photos developed tomorrow.



- Mrs Jones said (that) she (had) had a brilliant time.
- Jimmy
- Grandmother
- Judy
- Mr Jones
- Paul
- Tracy
- Danny