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.

"I wish I were / was famous" 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. 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 savs.

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UP-TO-DATE REPORTING / OUT-OF-DATE REPORTING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 The verb tenses change when something is out of date or not true when we report it.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 (The trip is over since it's February, out-of-date reporting)

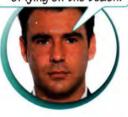
"The Earth is flat," he said.

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

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



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



2. I loved wind-surfing!



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



3. I didn't like the food.



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





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

to going back to school.



- 1 Mrs Jones said (that) she (had) had a brilliant time.
- 3 Grandmother
- Judy
- Mr Jones
- Tracy 7
- Danny