

**Adapted from: Elementary Language Practice by Michael Vince****Explanations****What is reported speech?***'I'm leaving at six,' she said.*

This is direct speech, or the words that we hear.

*She said that she was leaving at six.**She said she was leaving at six.*

This is indirect or reported speech. Someone tells us what she said.

**Tense changes**

- Present simple to past simple

*'Tim wants some coffee.'**He said (that) Tim wanted some coffee.**'Tim is late.'**He said (that) Tim was late.*

- Present continuous to past continuous

*'I'm washing my hair.'**She said (that) she was washing her hair.*

- Present perfect to past perfect

*'Helen has lost her wallet.'**He said (that) Helen had lost her wallet.*

- will to would

*'I'll be late.'**She said (that) she would be late.*

- Past simple to past perfect

*'Kate took my keys.'**He said (that) Kate had taken his keys.***Past perfect**

Forming the past perfect: | **had** + past participle |

*I had started**he had started**we had started**I'd started**he'd started**we'd started**you had started**she had started**they had started**you'd started**she'd started**they'd started**it had started**it'd started*

- **Words which describe time and place change in reported speech.**