

Direct / Indirect Speech – Exercises

A. Change the following sentences from DIRECT to INDIRECT speech:

1. The official said, “We are reviewing all financial documents.”
→ _____
2. The spokesperson said, “The public deserves full transparency.”
→ _____
3. The expert said, “This issue needs immediate attention.”
→ _____
4. A resident told journalists, “We want answers.”
→ _____
5. The minister said, “We will take strict measures.”
→ _____

B. Change the following sentences from INDIRECT to DIRECT speech:

1. The reporter said that the investigation had started.
→ _____
2. Officials admitted that mistakes had been made.
→ _____
3. The minister stated that new measures would be introduced.
→ _____
4. Witnesses said that they had seen suspicious activity.
→ _____
5. The governor claimed that the crisis was under control.
→ _____

C. Identify whether the sentence is DIRECT or INDIRECT speech:

1. The journalist said that the report was published yesterday. (Direct / Indirect)
2. "We are preparing a statement," the committee said. (Direct / Indirect)
3. Citizens said that they were concerned about corruption. (Direct / Indirect)
4. The minister said, "We must act immediately." (Direct / Indirect)
5. The report stated that the pollution levels had increased. (Direct / Indirect)

D. Transform the headlines into reported-speech sentences:

1. "Residents Demand Clean Water"
→ _____
2. "Government Announces New Anti-Corruption Plan"
→ _____
3. "Experts Warn of Rising Pollution Levels"
→ _____
4. "Factory Denies Responsibility for the Leak"
→ _____
5. "Minister Promises Immediate Reforms"
→ _____

E. Writing Task

Write a short **8–10 sentence news paragraph** about a local issue. Your paragraph must include:

- at least **2 direct quotes**
- at least **3 indirect speech statements**
- 3 reporting verbs (e.g., said, explained, warned, admitted, claimed)

ANSWERS

A. Change from direct to indirect speech:

1. The official said, "We are reviewing all financial documents."

→ The official said that they were reviewing all financial documents.

2. The spokesperson said, "The public deserves full transparency."

→ The spokesperson said that the public deserved full transparency.

3. The expert said, "This issue needs immediate attention."

→ The expert said that the issue needed immediate attention.

4. A resident told journalists, "We want answers."

→ A resident told journalists that they wanted answers.

B. Change from indirect to direct speech:

1. The reporter said that the investigation had started.

→ The reporter said, "The investigation has started."

2. Officials admitted that mistakes had been made.

→ Officials admitted, "Mistakes were made."

3. The minister stated that new measures would be introduced.

→ The minister stated, "We will introduce new measures."

C. Identify whether each sentence is direct or indirect:

1. The journalist said that the report was published yesterday.
(Indirect)

2. "We are preparing a statement," the committee said. (Direct)

3. Citizens said that they were concerned about corruption. (Indirect)

D. Writing Task (Sample Answer Included):

Write a short news paragraph using both direct and indirect speech.

Sample:

Journalists interviewed the mayor, who said, "We will not tolerate corruption." They later reported that the mayor had promised strict measures to protect public funds.