GrammarWiz

REPORTED SPEECH TENSE CONVERSION RULES

Direct Speech	Reported Speech
"I want a holiday" *(Present Simple)*	She told me she wanted a holiday *(Past Simple)*
"Bob is annoying me" *(Present Continuous)*	Jane said Bob was annoying her *(Past Continuous)*
"I have eaten too much" *(Present Perfect)*	He said he had eaten too much *(Past Perfect)*
"The class has been interesting" *(Present Perfect Continuous)*	Anne said the class had been interesting *(Past Perfect Continuous)*
"I saw her arrive" *(Past Simple)*	He told me he had seen her arrive *(Past Perfect)*
"The team were playing well" *(Past Continuous)*	John said the team had been playing well *(Past Perfect Continuous)*
"I had arrived before 9am" *(Past Perfect)*	She said she had arrived before 9am *(NO CHANGE)*
"We had already been dating for 3 years" *(Past Perfect Continuous)*	Mick told me they had already been dating for 3 years *(NO CHANGE)*
"I will take you out tonight" *(will)*	He said he would take me out tonight *(would)*
"I can easily pass the test" *(can)*	She said she could easily pass the test *(could)*
"You must leave immediately" *(must)*	He told me I had to leave immediately *(had to)*
"We may go out later" *(may)*	She said they might go out later *(might)*
"You ought to come at 7pm" *(ought to)*	He told me I ought to come at 7pm *(NO CHANGE)*
"I should have helped you" *(should)*	He said he should have helped me *(NO CHANGE)*
"I would walk the dog at night" *(would)*	She said she would walk the dog at night *(NO CHANGE)*
"You couldn't do it" *(could)*	"He told me I couldn't do it" *(NO CHANGE)*
"I might arrive late" *(might)*	He said he might arrive late *(NO CHANGE)*