

Reported Speech

SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW

- 1 Complete the sentences with the correct forms of the verbs in brackets.

1 The witnesses _____ (speak) to the police yesterday.

2 We _____ (interview) the victim's family now.

3 The suspect _____ (carry) a gun when the police arrested him.

4 I'm looking forward to visiting Alcatraz. I _____ (never/be) inside a prison before.

5 The drug dealer _____ (already/sell) all his drugs by the time the police arrived at the nightclub.

- 2 Complete the sentences with either said or told.

The Prime Minister said that he wanted to end discrimination in schools.

1 The witness _____ the policeman that the burglar had been dressed in black.

2 The thief _____ us that he had stolen the bread because he had been hungry.

3 The lawyer _____ we probably wouldn't win the court case.

- 3 Choose the correct forms to complete the reported statements.

1 'I don't usually shoplift.'

2 The suspect said she doesn't / didn't usually shoplift. 'My wife isn't answering her phone!'

3 'The witnesses are late.' Mr Rey said that his wife wasn't / isn't answering her phone.

4 'Two men are robbing the bank!' The judge said the witnesses were / are late.

5 'I can see the thief.' The guard said that two men are / were robbing the bank.

6 'The police aren't doing enough.' The woman said she can / could see the thief.

- 4 Complete the gaps in the reported sentences. Use the correct forms of the verbs in brackets.

1 Beth: 'I locked the doors.'

Seth: 'The burglar got in through the window.'

Beth said she had locked (lock) the doors. Seth told Beth the burglar had (get in) through the window.

2 Dan: 'I've spent time in prison.'

Anne: 'Everyone makes mistakes.'

3 Bill: 'I haven't told you the truth.'

Jill: 'Sometimes I lie to you too.'

Bill said he wasn't (not/tell) Jill the truth. Jill said that sometimes she lies (lie) to Bill too.

SHOW WHAT YOU'VE LEARNT

- 6 Rewrite the following sentences in direct speech as reported speech. Change the personal pronouns if necessary.

1 'The vandals are breaking my shop window!', said Carly.

Carly phoned the police and told them that the vandals were shop window.

2 'I didn't hear the victim's screams', said the witness.

The witness said he hadn't the victim's screams.

3 'I don't want to go to prison', said the man.

The man told the court he didn't to go to prison.

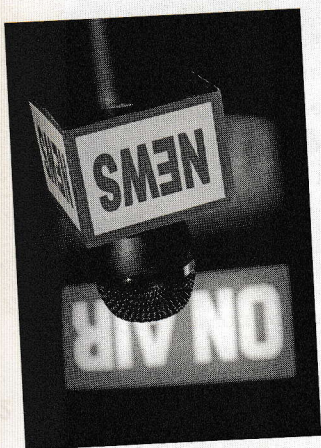
4 'There has been sexism in our office', said the women.

The women told the journalist there had been sexism in our office.

5 'My father was a burglar', Phillip said to Ella.

Phillip told Ella that his father was a burglar. 'We are educating the girls', the girls.

- 5 Read the news report and complete the direct speech sentences. Include personal pronouns where necessary.



In the case of the stolen exam papers, the teenage suspect said he was not guilty of the theft. He said 'he had left his parents' house at 8 a.m. that day and that 'he had gone straight to his favourite cafe. He told the court 'he hadn't been near school that day. His parents said 'their son was a good boy and 'he had never broken the law in his life. They also told the judge that 'he was studying hard for his exams. The case continues.