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“Reported Speech”

Warm-up Questions:

1. Has anyone ever told you something surprising?
2. Has anyone ever asked you to do them a favor?
3. Have you ever confessed your love to someone?

Explanation:

“said”: used without an object (unless “to”)

| Direct | Indirect |
|---|--|
| “It is going to rain tomorrow,” he said. | He said that it is going to rain tomorrow. |
| He said <u>to</u> me, “it is going to rain tomorrow.” | He said to me that it is going to rain tomorrow. |

“told”: used with a direct object

| Direct | Indirect |
|--|--|
| “We will always be best friends,” she told <u>me</u> . | She told <u>me</u> that we will always be best friends. |
| “Clean up your rooms,” the father told <u>the children</u> . | The father told <u>the children</u> to clean up their rooms. |

“asked”: used to report questions

| Direct | Indirect |
|---|--|
| “Will you go out with me?” she asked him. | She asked him if he would go out with her. |
| “Do we have a test today?” Tina asked her me. | Tina asked me if we have a test today. |

Practice:

Change the following sentences from direct speech to indirect speech. Use “said,” “told,” and “asked.”

1. (He) “I’m going on a trip to Hawaii.”
2. (Bill → Jim) “what time does class start?”
3. (Mom → me) “go to the store and buy some eggs.”
4. (Teacher → students) “don’t forget your homework.”

Conversation:

Two college students, Sara and Ken, are talking about a friend’s upcoming BBQ.

Sara: Hey are you coming to the BBQ this weekend?

Ken: Well, I’d love to, but my parents asked me to babysit my sister while they’re away.

Sara: Oh, that’s too bad. Anna told me that you-know-who is going to be there.

Ken: Oh my god, no way. Yuri is coming? She’s so cool.

Sara: Yeah, and she said that she really likes you. I’m sure if you asked her out at the BBQ she would say “yes.”

Ken: Seriously!?

Sara: Uh-huh, she told me after class the other day.

Ken: Ok, I’ll ask my parents if they can find another babysitter.

Comprehension Questions:

1. What does Sara ask Ken?
2. What did Ken's parents ask him to do?
3. What surprising information does Sara tell Ken?
4. What does Ken decide to do in the end?

Activity:

Listen to the instructor read quotes from famous individuals. Guess which person said the quote. Respond by saying "Name said that..."

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|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Mahatma Ghandi | William Shakespeare |
| Martin Luther King Jr | Albert Einstein |