The Reported Speech

I. Reporting statements

Exercise: Rewrite the direct speech as reported speech to complete the sentences.

- 1. "I'll send you a postcard."
- \rightarrow He told us that he
- 2. "We've bought a new car."
- \rightarrow They told me they
- 3. "I don't speak German."
- 4. "You failed your art exam last year."
- \rightarrow You said that we
- 5. "I can't drive now."
- \rightarrow He said
- 6. "You look nice this morning."
- \rightarrow He told me that I
- 7. "We're going ice-skating."
- \rightarrow They said they
- 8. "The students aren't listening to me."
- \rightarrow The teacher said the students

Key answers:

- 1. He told us that he would send us a postcard.
- 2. They told me they had bought a new car.
- 3. He told me that he didn't speak German.
- 4. You said that we failed our art exam the previous year.
- 5. He said he couldn't drive then.
- 6. He told me that I looked nice that morning.
- 7. They said they were going ice-skating.
- 8. The teacher said the students were not listening to him/her.

II. Reporting Questions

Exercise: Report the following questions.

- 1. Christopher asked me, "Do you want to dance?"
- \rightarrow Christopher asked me
- 2. Betty: "When did you come?"
- \rightarrow Betty wanted to know
- 3. "Has John arrived?" Mark asked.
- \rightarrow Mark asked me
- 4. Ronald said: "Where does Maria park her car?"
- \rightarrow Ronald asked me....;;
- 5. Elisabeth told me, "Did you watch the latest film?"
- \rightarrow Elisabeth asked me
- 6. Mandy said: "Can I help you?"
- \rightarrow Mandy wanted to know
- 7. Andrew asked me, "Will Mandy have lunch with Sue?"
- \rightarrow Andrew
- 8. Justin asked: "What are you doing?"
- \rightarrow Justin asked me;;
- 9. Frank: "How much pocket money does Lisa get?"
- \rightarrow Frank wanted to know
- 10. Anne: "Must I do the shopping?"
- →Anne asked

Key answers

- 1. Christopher asked me if I wanted to dance.
- 2. Betty wanted to know when I came.
- 3. Mark asked me if John had arrived.
- 4. Ronald asked me where Maria parked her car.

- 5. Elisabeth asked me if I watched the latest film.
- 6. Mandy wanted to know if she could help you.
- 7. Andrew asked me if Mandy would have lunch with Sue.
- 8. Justin asked me what I was doing.
- 9. Frank wanted to know how much pocket money Lisa got.
- 10. Anne asked if I had to do the shopping.