# Vision Goal Knowledge CAREER Growth Potential Performance



### QUESTIONS IN INDIRECT SPEECH

Direct question: He said, "Where is she going?" Indirect question: He asked where she was going.

- A. When we turn direct questions into indirect speech, the following changes are necessary:
  - a. tenses, pronouns and possessive adjectives, and adverbs of time and place change as in statements.
  - b. the interrogative form of the verb changes to the affirmative form.
  - c. the question mark is omitted in indirect questions.
- B. If the introductory verb is say, it must be changed to a verb of inquiry, e.g. ask, wonder, want to know etc.

He said, "Where is the station?" → He asked where the station was.

C. ask can be followed by the person addressed (indirect object):

He asked, "What have you got in your bag?" → He asked (me) what I had got in my bag.

But **wonder** and **want to know** cannot take an indirect object, so if we wish to report a question where the person addressed is mentioned, we must use **ask**.

He said, "Mary, when is the next train?" → He asked Mary when the next train was.

D. If the direct question begins with a question word (when, where, who, how, why etc.) the question word is repeated in the indirect question:

He said, "Why didn't you put on the brake?" → He asked (her) why she hadn't put on the brake.

She said, "What do you want?" → She asked (them) what they wanted.

E. If there is no question word, if or whether must be used:

"Is anyone there?" he asked → He asked if/whether anyone was there.

### Task 1

Write these sentences as reported questions using the words given.

- a. "What's your name?", he asked. (wanted to know)
- b. "Do you like Marlon Brandon?", she asked.
- c. "How old are you?", she said. (asked)
- d. "When does the train leave?", I asked.
- e. "Are you enjoying yourself?", he asked.
- f. "How are you?", he said. (asked)
- g. "Does your father work here?", she asked.
- h. "Do you live near your father?", he asked.
- i. "Who did you see at the meeting?", my mother asked.
- j. "Why did you take my wallet?", he asked.

# Task 2

### Change the questions below from direct speech to indirect speech:

- 1. She said to her daughter, "Are you coming home for dinner?"
- 2. I said, "How old are you?"
- 3. They asked each other, "What will we do this summer?"
- 4. He said to Kim, "Why are you shouting?"
- 5. I said to them, "Is the movie over?"
- 6. He asked her, "Are you ok?"

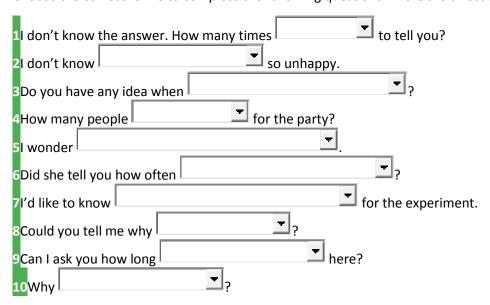
- 7. I asked, "When is your birthday?"
- 8. The teacher said, "Are you ready for the test?"

# Task 3

Turn these direct questions into indirect questions.

Example: Where is the shop?-Can you tell me where the shop is?
1Where is he from?
Do you know ?
2How many countries has he travelled to?
I wonder .
3Where did you go?
Can you tell me ?
4Have you finished the report yet?
I'd like to know
5Does he go out very often?
I've no idea whether .
6Who was she talking to?
I wonder who
7Where is the nearest station?
Could you tell me where ?
8Why can't you help your new colleague?
Would you mind telling me why ?
9What is our new boss like?
I'd like to find out what
10How could you do that?
I don't know how .

**Task 4**Choose the correct forms to complete the following questions. There are direct and indirect questions.



## Task 5

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Choose the correct forms to complete the questions below. There are direct and indirect questions.
1.I'd like to know
a. how can I contact her
b. how I can contact her
c. how do I contact her
2.I was wondering the recipe.
a. where you found
b. where did you find
c. where found you
3. Would you mind telling me?
a. how much did the sofa cost
b. how much cost the sofa
c. how much the sofa cost
4. How long to finish the project?
a. it is going to take
b. is it going to take
c. it's going to take
5 in this house?
a. How much time you have been living
b. How long you've been living
c. How long have you been living
6.Could you tell me?
a. what are you afraid
b. what you are afraid
c. what you are afraid of
7.Do you know?
a. if is he going to come
b. if he's going to come
c. whether is he going to come
8.I'd like to know
a. why you are acting so weird
b. why are you acting so weird
c. why act you so weird
9.Do you have any idea?
a. is who the man in black
b. who's the man in black
c. who the man in black is
10? Can you tell me?
a. Where is the new student from
b. Where the new student is from
c. From where is the new student