

Intermediate 2
Unit 3, Grammar: Part A
Presented by Mohammad Rajabpur

Tense Changes in Reported Speech

Point:

When the reporting verb (say, tell, ...) is in the past form (said, told, ...), the tense of the reported speech changes in indirect speech according to the following table.

tense = grammatical time structure

Tense in Direct Speech	Tense in Indirect Speech
Simple Present	Simple Past
Present Continuous	Past Continuous
Simple Past	Past Perfect
Past Continuous	Past Perfect Continuous
Present Perfect	Past Perfect
Present Perfect Continuous	Past Perfect Continuous
Past Perfect	Past Perfect

Point:

The past perfect tense does not change in reported speech and remains the same.

Examples:

He said, "I'm studying."

He said (that) he was studying.

He said, "I study every day."

He said (that) he studied every day.

He said, "I studied hard."

He said (that) he had studied hard.

He said, "I was studying my lessons."

He said (that) he had been studying his lessons.

He said, "I **have studied** my lessons."

He said (that) he **had studied** his lessons.

He said, "I **have been studying** my lessons."

He said (that) he **had been studying** his lessons.

He said, "I **had studied** my lessons."

He said (that) he **had studied** his lessons.

Source:

[Intermediate 2 \(anglophone.ir\)](http://anglophone.ir)