**Direct and indirect speech**

Direct speech is when we quote someone else’s words.

Sam said, “I am going to play outside”

Indirect speech is when we tell someone else what the person has said. We tell them what was said in the past regardless of how long ago it was. Therefore we have timeless words like the day before or next day, since we cannot put a specific time to the spoken words.

If we change the given direct speech sentence to the indirect speech it will change as follows.

Sam said, “I am going to play outside today.”

Step one, remove the inverted commas and the comma and add the word “that”

Sam said, **that** “I am going to play outside today.”

Sam said that I am going outside today.

Step two. It is obviously not you saying it but Sam who said it so change the pronoun I to he.

Sam said that **he is** going outside today.

Step 3. Remember we said that you are telling someone what Sam said in the past. So he is no longer going outside. He was already outside a long time ago, now change the verb.

Sam said that he **was** going to play outside today.

Step 4: Change your time words or place. It is no longer today.

Sam said that he was going to play outside **that day.**

**REMEMBER**

Present tense changes to past tense.

Past tense changes to past perfect.

Future tense **will** changes to **would**.

**Activity**

1. **Change the following sentence to the indirect speech.**
2. Simon said, “I am going to do my homework this afternoon when I get home.”
3. Chrissy asked, “Brandon, can you please buy some peanut butter if you go to the shop tomorrow.”
4. Thembi said, “I will stay at home for the duration of the lockdown.”
5. Gerald said, “I was sleeping until 11 o’ clock.
6. Thabo said, “I am an essential worker so I have to go to work today.”
7. **Change the following sentences to the direct speech.**
8. Michael said that he was going to the shop that day.
9. Sandra said that she had made lunch the day before.
10. Lucy said she would go to the shop the following week.
11. Musa said that he was tired of lockdown and he wished it would end soon.
12. Carry said that she was thankful to all the essential workers for their hard work.