

## Discours direct et discours indirect en anglais

En français et en anglais, pour rapporter les propos de quelqu'un ou ses propres paroles, on peut utiliser le discours direct ou le discours indirect. Il peut s'agir d'affirmations, de questions, d'ordres, de conseils...

Lorsqu'on passe du style direct au style indirect il faut souvent changer les pronoms personnels, les démonstratifs et les possessifs en fonction de qui dit quoi:

- *I* devient *he / she*
- *me* devient *him / her*
- *my* devient *his / her*
- *we* devient *they*
- *this* devient *that*

Voici quelques exemples:

Discours direct	Discours indirect
She says: "My dad likes onion soup."	She says that <b>her</b> dad likes onion soup.
Kevin said, 'I'm tired.'	Kevin said (that) <b>he</b> was tired.
Have you ever been to Japan?	She asked <b>me</b> if I had ever been to Japan.
Open the door!	He told <b>me</b> to open the door.

Note: **That** est souvent sous-entendu au discours indirect. Il n'est pas obligatoire de le mettre, et il est donc indiqué entre parenthèses dans cette leçon.

### Les verbes introducteurs

Pour rapporter les paroles de quelqu'un, au discours direct comme au discours indirect, on a besoin d'un verbe introducteur.

Les deux plus fréquents sont **tell (dire à quelqu'un)** et **say (dire)**, mais il y en a bien d'autres possibles comme:

- *ask* → *demander*
- *reply* → *répondre*
- *warn* → *avertir*
- *answer* → *répondre*
- *point out* → *signaler*
- *state* → *affirmer*
- *write* → *écrire*
- *add* → *ajouter*
- *exclaim* → *s'exclamer*
- *protest* → *protester*
- *report* → *rapporter*
- *explain* → *expliquer*
- *think* → *penser*
- *admit* → *admettre*
- *declare* → *déclarer*
- *mention* → *mentionner*
- *suggest* → *suggérer*
- *advise* → *conseiller*
- *claim* → *prétendre que*
- *forbid* → *interdire*
- *order* → *ordonner*
- *hope* → *espérer*
- *inquire* → *se renseigner*
- *want to know* → *vouloir savoir*
- *wonder* → *se demander*

### Say ou tell ?

Attention à **bien distinguer SAY de TELL**. Les deux verbes se traduisent par 'dire', mais leur emploi est différent. Avec TELL, l'interlocuteur est cité : le nom ou le pronom est placé immédiatement après tell (*tell somebody something*).

Avec SAY, l'interlocuteur n'est pas nécessairement cité ; s'il l'est, on l'introduit par la préposition **to** (*say something to somebody*):

- He says (that) he is English. → Il dit qu'il est anglais.
- He tells me (that) he is English. → Il me dit qu'il est anglais.

Toutefois, tell s'emploie dans quelques expressions sans mention d'un interlocuteur:

- tell the truth → dire la vérité
- tell a story → raconter une histoire
- tell the time → dire l'heure.

**Note:** la formulation **'He said to me...'** est possible mais semble maladroite. On utilise de préférence **'He told me...'**.

### LES MODIFICATIONS DE TEMPS

Le passage au discours indirect entraîne des modifications de temps, selon que le verbe est au présent ou au passé.

**Si le verbe introducteur est au présent, le temps (ou le modal) ne change pas.**

- "I'm sorry." → He **says** he is sorry.
- "I can do it." → He **says** he can do it.

**Si le verbe introducteur est au passé, le temps du verbe change:**

En règle générale, on applique la concordance des temps comme en français :

Exemples de changements principaux des temps:

Discours direct	Discours indirect
<b>Présent simple</b> He said: "I <b>am</b> happy"	<b>Prétérit</b> He said (that) he <b>was</b> happy.
<b>Présent continu / progressif</b> He said: "I <b>m looking</b> for my phone"	<b>Past Continuous</b> He said (that) he <b>was looking</b> for his phone.
<b>Prétérit</b> He said: "I <b>visited</b> Paris last year"	<b>Past Perfect Simple</b> He said (that) he <b>had visited</b> Paris the previous year.
<b>Present Perfect</b> He said: " I <b>ve lived</b> in London for a long time "	<b>Past Perfect</b> He said (that) he <b>had lived</b> in London for a long time.
<b>Past Perfect</b> He said: "They <b>had cleaned</b> the kitchen when I <b>arrived</b> "	<b>Past Perfect</b> He said (that) they <b>had cleaned</b> the kitchen when he <b>had arrived</b> .
<b>Past Continuous</b> He said: "I <b>was watching TV</b> when the accident <b>occurred</b> "	<b>Past Perfect Continuous</b> He said (that) <b>he had been watching TV</b> when the accident <b>had occurred</b> .
<b>Present Perfect Progressive</b> He said: "I <b>have been swimming</b> for one hours."	<b>Past Perfect Continuous</b> He said (that) <b>he had been swimming</b> for one hours.
<b>Past Perfect Continuous</b> He said: "I <b>had been reading</b> a book when the light <b>went off</b> "	<b>Past Perfect Continuous</b> He said (that) he <b>had been reading</b> a book when the light <b>had gone off</b> .
<b>Futur simple (will+verb)</b> He said: "I <b>will open</b> the door."	<b>Conditionnel (would+verb)</b> He said (that) <b>he would open</b> the door.
<b>Conditionnel (would+verb)</b> He said: "I <b>would buy</b> a plane if I <b>were</b> rich"	<b>Conditionnel (would+verb)</b> He said (that) he <b>would buy</b> a plane if he <b>had been</b> rich.

## LES MODAUX

Les modaux *could, should, would, might, needn't, ought to, used to* ne changent pas lorsqu'ils sont rapportés au discours indirect.

Ceux qui changent sont **will** → **would**, **can** → **could**, **may** → **might**:

- I will come with you. → Tina promised she would come with me.
- I can help you. → He said he could help me.
- It may be a good idea. → I thought it might be a good idea.

Modaux	Discours direct	Discours indirect
will	"They will call you."	He told her that they would call her.
would*	"I would help, but I'm sick."	She said (that) she would help but she was sick.
can	"I can do it."	He said he could do it.
could*	"I could swim when I was four"	She said (that) she could swim when she was four.
should*	"I should call my mother"	She said (that) she should call her mother.
may	"May I go out?"	He wanted to know if he might go out.
must	"She must apply for the job."	He said that she must/had to apply for the job.

\* ne changent pas

## LES REPÈRES DE TEMPS, DE LIEU ET DÉMONSTRATIFS

Les expressions de temps, de lieu et les démonstratifs changent si le contexte du discours indirect est différent de celui du discours direct.

She said "I saw him yesterday." → She said she had seen him the day before. (Elle a dit qu'elle l'avait vu la veille)

Discours direct	Discours indirect
<b>Repères de temps</b>	
today	that day
now	then
yesterday	the day before
... days ago	... days before
last week	the week before
next week	the following week
next year	the following year
tomorrow	the next day / the following day
<b>Repère de lieu</b>	
here	there
<b>Démonstratifs</b>	
this	that
these	those

### Les ordres et interdictions au discours indirect

Pour rapporter un ordre ou une interdiction au discours indirect, on emploiera les verbes comme tell, order ou forbid... Attention, pensez à remplacer Don't par NOT lorsqu'il est verbe principal de la phrase !

Pour les phrases affirmatives il faut utiliser *to + infinitif*

Pour les phrases négatives il faut utiliser *not to + infinitif*

- Don't worry! → He told her not to worry.
- He said, "go to bed!" → He ordered the child to go to bed.
- Don't marry him! → She forbade me to marry him.
- Please don't be late. → She asked us not to be late.

### Les questions au discours indirect

S'il y a un mot interrogatif comme where/who/when/why... au discours direct, on le garde au discours indirect:

- What are you doing? → She asked me what I was doing.
- Who was that beautiful woman? → He asked me who that beautiful woman had been.
- Where do you live? → He wanted to know where I lived.
- "Why don't you speak Spanish?" → He asked me why I didn't speak Spanish.

S'il s'agit d'une question fermée ou on doit répondre par oui/non, on utilise *if ou whether*:

- "Do you like chocolate?" → She asked me if I liked chocolate.
- "Are you living here?" → She asked me if I was living here.
- "Have you ever been to Paris?" → He asked me if I had ever been to Paris.

Lorsque la question contient un modal, celui-ci est au prétérit dans la question rapportée:

- How will he react? → He wondered how he would react.

Quelques exemples de questions indirectes:

- I wondered what they were talking about.
- I don't know if they'll come or not.

### AUTRES TRANSFORMATIONS

Les expressions de conseils comme *must*, *should* et *ought* sont généralement rapportées en utilisant les verbes *advise* ou *urge*:

- "You must read this book." → He advised / urged me to read that book.

L'expression let's est généralement rapportée en utilisant le verbe *suggest*, avec le gérondif ou avec *should*:

- "Let's go to the cinema." → He suggested going to the cinema. OU He suggested that we should go to the cinema.