

# REPORTED SPEECH QUESTIONS AND REPORTING VERBS





“Do you have a Master’s Degree?”



She asked **if / whether** he had a Master’s Degree.

Yes/No questions

“When can you start?”



She asked **when** he could start.

*Wh-* questions



# Reported questions



- When we *report questions*, we generally use the same word order as in statements:

**subject** + **verb**

She asked *if / whether* **she** **had** time.



# Reported questions

- Verb tenses, pronouns, time expressions change as in statements
- When we are **reporting questions**, besides *ask* we can use other **reporting verbs / expressions**, like: *inquire, wonder or want to know*



## Reporting verbs

“The job includes a two-week holiday.”



He **explained** *that* the job included a two-week holiday.

Some **reporting verbs** are followed by a *that-clause*

“Why don’t you apply for the job?”



He **suggested** *applying* for the job.

Some **reporting verbs** are followed by an *-ing form*



# Reporting verbs

## Reporting verbs used with a *that*-clause

- add
- admit
- agree
- answer
- believe
- claim
- complain
- confess
- confirm
- decide
- deny
- doubt
- explain
- feel
- hope
- insist
- mention
- promise
- repeat
- reply
- say
- suggest

## Reporting verbs used with an *-ing* form

- accuse somebody of
- admit (to)
- apologise for
- confess (to)
- complain about
- deny
- insist on
- Prohibit
- suggest



# TIME TO PRACTISE





## Turn the sentences into reported speech.

1. “Do you know anyone here?”

She asked if /whether he knew anyone there.

2. “Where do I find my locker?”

She wanted to know where she found her locker.

3. “Have you got any experience as a teacher?”

She asked if /whether she had any experience as a teacher.

4. “How are you feeling today?”

She inquired how she was feeling.





# Turn the sentences into reported speech using the verbs in brackets.

1. “Have you thought about the working hours? (suggest)  
He suggested thinking about the working hours.
2. “There are two places for teachers at the moment.”  
(explain)  
He explained that there were two places for teachers at that time.
3. “The new office is very comfortable.” (say)  
She said (that) the new office was comfortable.
4. “Let’s go for a walk.” (suggest)  
He suggested going for a walk.

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