



## Mixed Reported Speech: Reported Statements vs Reported Questions

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

- "I live in London." → She said she \_\_\_\_ in London.  
a) lives  
b) lived  
c) had lived  
d) was living
- "Do you speak French?" → He asked me \_\_\_\_ I spoke French.  
a) that  
b) what  
c) if  
d) do
- "Where is the station?" → She asked \_\_\_\_ the station was.  
a) if  
b) that  
c) where  
d) whether
- "I have finished my homework." → He told his mother he \_\_\_\_ his homework.  
a) has finished  
b) finished  
c) had finished  
d) was finishing
- "Are you coming to the party?" → She asked me \_\_\_\_ I was coming to the party.  
a) if  
b) that  
c) what  
d) when
- "I can't find my keys." → She said she \_\_\_\_ find her keys.  
a) can't  
b) couldn't  
c) wasn't able  
d) hadn't found
- "What time does the film start?" → He asked \_\_\_\_ the film started.  
a) if  
b) that  
c) whether  
d) what time
- "I will call you tomorrow." → He \_\_\_\_ he would call me the next day.  
a) asked  
b) said  
c) told to me  
d) asked if
- "Have you ever been to Japan?" → She asked me \_\_\_\_ I had ever been to Japan.  
a) that  
b) did  
c) have  
d) if
- "My sister is a doctor." → He told me his sister \_\_\_\_ a doctor.  
a) is  
b) was  
c) had been  
d) has been
- "Who taught you English?" → He asked me who \_\_\_\_ me English.  
a) taught  
b) had taught  
c) has taught  
d) teaches





## Answers

1. b) lived
2. c) if
3. c) where
4. c) had finished
5. a) if
6. b) couldn't
7. d) what time
8. b) said
9. d) if
10. b) was
11. b) had taught
12. a) was studying
13. c) asked
14. c) had bought
15. d) had been waiting
16. a) might
17. d) if
18. d) said
19. a) when
20. a) had to



# Explanations

**1. “lived” (b)**

This is a statement. We use 'said + that clause' with tense backshift: present simple 'live' → past simple 'lived'.

**2. “if” (c)**

This is a yes/no question. We use 'asked + if/whether + statement word order'. 'That' is for statements, not questions.

**3. “where” (c)**

This is a wh-question. We keep the wh-word and change to statement word order: 'where the station was' (not 'where was the station').

**4. “had finished” (c)**

This is a statement. Present perfect 'have finished' backshifts to past perfect 'had finished'. 'Told' requires a person object (his mother).

**5. “if” (a)**

This is a yes/no question. We use 'asked + if' and change to statement word order: 'if I was coming' (not 'if was I coming').

**6. “couldn't” (b)**

This is a statement. Modal 'can't' backshifts to 'couldn't'. The pronoun 'my' changes to 'her'.

**7. “what time” (d)**

This is a wh-question. We keep 'what time' and use statement word order: 'what time the film started' (not 'what time does the film start').

**8. “said” (b)**

This is a statement, so we use 'said' (not 'asked'). 'Will' backshifts to 'would', and 'tomorrow' becomes 'the next day'.

**9. “if” (d)**

This is a yes/no question. We use 'asked + if/whether'. Present perfect 'have been' backshifts to past perfect 'had been'. 'That' is for statements; 'if' is for yes/no questions.

**10. “was” (b)**

This is a statement. 'Is' backshifts to 'was'. 'My' changes to 'his' because we are reporting his words.

**11. “had taught” (b)**

This is a wh-question. Past simple 'taught' backshifts to past perfect 'had taught'. The wh-word 'who' stays, and we use statement word order.

**12. “was studying” (a)**

This is a statement. Present continuous 'am studying' backshifts to past continuous 'was studying'. 'My' changes to 'her'.

**13. “asked” (c)**

This is a yes/no question, so we use 'asked' (not 'said' or 'told'). Past simple 'enjoy' backshifts to past perfect 'had enjoyed'.

**14. “had bought” (c)**

This is a statement. Past simple 'bought' backshifts to past perfect 'had bought'. 'Last week' becomes 'the week before'.

**15. “had been waiting” (d)**

This is a wh-question. Present perfect continuous 'have been waiting' backshifts to past perfect continuous 'had been waiting'.

**16. “might” (a)**

This is a statement. Modal 'may' backshifts to 'might'. 'Next month' becomes 'the following month'.

**17. “if” (d)**

This is a yes/no question (request). We use 'asked + if'. 'Can' backshifts to 'could'. 'Your' changes to 'my'.

**18. “said” (d)**

This is a statement, so we use 'said that...' (not 'asked'). 'Told' would require a person object: 'told me that...'

**19. “when” (a)**

This is a wh-question. We keep 'when' and use statement word order. 'Will' backshifts to 'would'.

**20. “had to” (a)**

This is a statement. Modal 'must' backshifts to 'had to'. 'Now' changes to 'then'.