Reported speech exercises with answers

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Choose the right option

Last year Tom said he _____ in London. Now he lives in Paris.

a) live b) lives c) lived

2. Choose the right option

Anna _____ me she was busy.

a) told b) say c) said

3. Choose the right option

Anna said she _____ come to the party last night, so we went without her.

a) can't b) couldn't c) doesn't

4. Choose the right option

Tom told me he _____ never been to London, so I showed him the city.

a) was b) has c) had

5. Choose the right option

She asked _____ I was hungry, and I said yes.

a) if b) that c) was

6. Choose the right option

The doctor _____ me to stay in bed.

a) said b) say c) told

7. Choose the right option

When I called Sam, he said he _____ dinner, so I called back later.

a) is cooking b) cooking c) was cooking

8. Choose the right option

Tom _____ he was tired and went to bed.

a) said b) tell c) told

9. Choose the right option

Sam promised he _____ be late, but he came an hour late.

a) won't b) doesn't c) wouldn't

10. Fill in the gaps

Maria said she _____ _____ the book, so she gave it back to me.

Words: finishing / finished / finish / have / had

11. Put the words in order

Report Anna's question: Are you hungry?

asked / is / do / Anna / I / was / that / hungry / if

Not all words are needed.

---

12. Choose the right option

Mum asked us _____ loud music at night.

a) not to play b) don't play c) not play

13. Choose the right option

What did the doctor _____ you?

a) said b) tell c) say

14. Fill in the gaps

Tom said he _____ _____ me at eight, but he didn't call.

Words: called / call / will / calls / would

15. Choose the right option

Sam said he _____ the film, so we watched it together.

a) hadn't seen b) hadn't saw c) hasn't seen

16. Choose the right option

The man asked me _____.

a) where the station was b) where was the station c) where did the station was

17. Fill in the gaps

The teacher told _____ _____ to talk during the test.

Words: don't / us / we / our / not

18. Choose the right option

Anna asked me _____.

a) what music do I like b) what music I liked c) what music did I like

19. Choose the right option

Tom asked _____ to help him with the bags.

a) me b) I c) that I

Answers

Reported speech exercises with answers

1. **lived**

   Tom said it last year, and now he lives in Paris. So we move *live* into the past: *lived*.

2. **told**

   Me comes right after the gap, so we use *told*. We never say *said me*.

3. **couldn't**

   Anna said it in the past, so we use *couldn't* for *can't*.

4. **had**

   Tom saw London after he said this. So we use *had* for *has*: *had never been*.

5. **if**

   It was a yes or no question, so we use *if*. We don't use *that* after *asked*.

6. **told**

   Me comes after the gap, so we use *told*. We never say *said me*.

7. **was cooking**

   Sam said *I'm cooking*, and he isn't cooking now. So we use *was cooking* for *am cooking*.

8. **said**

   There is no person after the gap, only *he was tired*. Without a person we use *said*.

9. **wouldn't**

   Sam's words were *I won't be late*. After *promised* in the past, we use *wouldn't* for *won't*.

10. **had ... finished**

    In reported speech we use *had* for *has* and keep *finished*. We don't use *have* with *she*.

11. **Anna asked if I was hungry.**

    We report a yes or no question with *if*. After *if*, use the order of a positive sentence: *I was hungry*.

12. **not to play**

    We report *don't do something* as *not to do it*. We don't keep *don't* in reported speech.

13. **tell**

    You comes after the gap, so we use *tell*. After *did*, use the infinitive.

14. **would ... call**

    After *said*, we move *will* back to *would*, then use the infinitive *call*.

15. **hadn't seen**

    Then we watched the film together, so Sam's words are no longer true. We use *hadn't seen* for *hasn't seen*.

16. where the station was

In a reported question, use the order of a positive sentence: *the station*, then *was*.

17. us ... not

After *told* we use *us*, not *we*. We report *don't* with *not to*: *not to talk*.

18. what music I liked

After *asked*, we don't use *did*: *I* comes right after *what music*, then the verb in the past.

19. me

After *asked*, put the person as *me*, then *to* + infinitive. We don't use *that I* here.