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ИНФОРМАТИКИ И РАДИОЭЛЕКТРОНИКИ

Кафедра иностранных языков № 2

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Speaking Skill Mastering Guide  
for 1st Year Students  
of Computer & Information Departments

Практикум по совершенствованию навыков  
говорения на английском языке  
для студентов 1 курса ФКСиС и ФИТУ

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УДК 4И (англ.) (075)

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Практикум предназначен для развития навыков устной речи на английском языке у студентов.

Цель его – способствовать развитию навыков говорения и активизировать грамматический минимум в диалогизированной речи. Каждая тема представлена комплексом речевых упражнений, образцами монологической и диалогической речи; типовыми ситуациями.

Практикум создан на базе оригинального английского учебного пособия "HEADWAY" LIZ & JOHN SOARS и может быть использован для самостоятельной работы студентов и для работы аудитории под руководством преподавателя.

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# 12 Two weddings, a birth and a funeral!

Reported speech  
Saying sorry

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## Test your grammar

1. Read the story in **a** and write the actual words of the conversation in **b**.

### *The Marriage Proposal*

**a** John greeted Moira and asked how she was. She told him she was fine and asked about him. He said he felt wonderful because they were together again. He added that it had been a long time since their holiday in Paris. She said she had loved every minute in Paris and that she would never forget it. She asked if they could go back there next spring. He said that he loved her. He asked if she would marry him and come to Paris with him for their honeymoon. She said that she would and that she loved him, too.

**b** John 'Hello, Moira. How \_\_\_?'  
Moira 'I'm \_\_\_.'  
John 'I feel \_\_\_ because we \_\_\_. It's been \_\_\_.'  
Moira 'I loved \_\_\_. I'll never \_\_\_. Can we \_\_\_?'  
John 'I \_\_\_. Well you \_\_\_?'  
Moira 'Oh yes, yes, I \_\_\_.'

2. Which is direct speech and which is reported speech?

3. T.1 Listen to the conversation. Are there any differences with yours?

## PRESENTATION (1)

### Reported statements and questions

1. Match a line in **A** with a line in **B** to make a natural sounding conversation. Put the letters a-j near the sentences in **B**. Where is the conversation taking place? Who are Adam and Beatrice?

#### **A ( Adam )**

- Are you on your own?
- How do you know John and Moira, then?
- Do you like big weddings?
- Where did you meet your husband, then?
- Why aren't you drinking?
- Have you traveled far to get here?
- Why aren't you wearing a hat?
- Where are you staying tonight?

- i) Can you give me a lift there?
- j) Yes, I am. Will there be enough room in your car?

**B ( Beatrice )**

- I never wear hats.
- Oh, yes, lots. There won't be a problem.
- We're at the *Red Lion*.
- Because I'm driving.
- No, I'm not. I'm with my husband.
- I prefer smaller ones.
- Actually, I met him at a wedding.
- Yes, we have. We flew in from New York yesterday.
- I was at university with Moira.
- Yes, we can. Are you staying at the *Red Lion*, too?

**PRACTICE**

**1. Reporting a conversation**

You are Beatrice. Continue reporting the conversation to a partner.

*Example: Then he asked if I liked ... and I said that I ...*

**T.2** Listen and check your answer.

**2. Grammar**

1. Put the following direct speech into reported speech.

- a) 'I'm exhausted!' he said.
- b) 'Are you leaving on Friday?' she asked me.
- c) 'We haven't seen Jack for a long time,' they said.
- d) 'We flew to Madrid,' they said.
- e) 'Which airport did you fly from?' I asked them.
- f) 'The flight has been cancelled,' the announcement said.
- g) 'Our plane was delayed by five hours,' they told us.
- h) 'What time did it take off?' she asked.
- i) 'I'll help you unpack,' he said.
- j) 'I can't do this exercise,' he told the teacher.

2. What's the difference in meaning in the following examples of reported speech? Discuss with a partner.

- a) Beatrice said she lived in New York.  
Beatrice said she'd lived in New York.
- b) Moira told her mother that she'd love John.  
Moira told her mother that she loved John.
- c) Adam asked them how they'd travel to Paris.  
Adam asked them how they'd traveled to Paris.

What did the people actually say in direct speech?

## 2. Stress and intonation

1. Work in pairs and complete the conversation. **A** is talking to **B** about a friend, George. **B** has not heard the same as **A**.

**Example:** **A** George doesn't like his new job.

**B** But he told me *he loved it!* (love)

- a) **A** He loves living in London. **B** But he told me \_\_\_! (hate)  
b) **A** He's moving to Canada. **B** But he told me \_\_\_! (Australia)  
c) **A** His girlfriend has left him. **B** But he told me \_\_\_! (he/leave/her)  
d) **A** He'll be thirty next week. **B** But he told me \_\_\_! (twenty-one)  
e) **A** He went to Amsterdam  
for his last holiday. **B** But he told me \_\_\_! (Barbados)  
f) **A** He can't give up smoking. **B** But he told me \_\_\_! (three years ago)  
g) **A** He was given the sack  
last week. **B** But he told me \_\_\_! (promotion)  
h) **A** He's fallen in love with a  
French girl. **B** But he told \_\_\_! (with me)

3. **T.3** Listen and check your answers. Pay particular attention to the stress and intonation.

## PRESENTATION (2)

### Reported commands

1. Read the newspaper article.

#### 'A MARRIAGE MADE IN HELL!'

*This is how Judge Margaret Pickles described the marriage of Patrick and Pauline Peters as she ordered them to spend fourteen days in prison for rowing.*

The couple only married six months ago and already they are famous for their rows. Neighbours complained that they could hear them shouting from the bus stop six hundred yards away. Mrs Iris Fish, who lives opposite, said, 'First I asked them nicely to stop because my baby couldn't get to sleep, but they didn't. Then my husband knocked at their door and told them to stop, but still they didn't. They threw a chair at him out of the window. It just missed him! So that was it! We rang the police and asked them to come immediately.'

Mr and Mrs Peters admitted they had been arguing. Mrs Peters said that she had accused Mr Peters of wasting their money on drink and gambling. However, they denied throwing the chair.

The judge clearly did not believe them. She reminded them that they had already had two previous warnings from the police and she told them

that they would soon cool down in prison, especially as they would be in separate prisons. She advised them to talk to a marriage guidance counselor.

Mr and Mrs Fish and their baby are looking forward to some sleep!

2. Who is speaking? Find the lines in the text that report the following.

- a) 'You must go to prison for a fortnight.'
- b) 'It's terrible. We can hear them shouting from the bus stop.'
- c) 'Please, will you stop making that noise? My baby can't get to sleep.'
- d) 'Stop making that noise!'
- e) 'Please, can you come immediately?'
- f) 'OK. OK. It's true. We were arguing.'
- g) 'You've been wasting our money on drink and gambling again!'
- h) 'We didn't throw the chair.'
- i) 'Remember that you have already had two warnings from the police.'
- j) 'You'll soon cool down in prison.'
- k) 'I think you should see a marriage guidance counselor.'

Compare the direct and reported speech.

## PRACTICE

### 1. Other reporting verbs

1. Which verb can be used to report the direct speech in the sentences below? Put a letter a-j near each verb.

<i>tell</i>	<i>order</i>	<i>remind</i>	<i>beg</i>	<i>advise</i>
<i>ask</i>	<i>invite</i>	<i>warn</i>	<i>offer</i>	<i>refuse</i>

- a) 'Please can you translate this sentence for me?' Maria said to Mark.
- b) 'Don't forget to send Aunt Maud a birthday card,' Marry said to her son.
- c) 'Sign on the dotted line,' the postman said to me.
- d) 'Please, please, please marry me. I can't live without you,' John said to Moira.
- e) 'Please come to our wedding,' John said to his boss.
- f) 'I'll pay for the next round,' Mark said.
- g) 'Don't run round the edge of the swimming pool or you'll fall in,' Marry said to her children.
- h) 'I won't go to bed!' Bobby said.
- i) 'You should talk to your solicitor,' Ben said to Bill.
- j) 'Take that chewing gum out of your mouth immediately!' the teacher said to Jo.

2. Change the sentences in Exercise 1 into indirect speech using the appropriate verbs.

### 2. Listening and speaking

You are policemen or policewomen taking statements.

1. Divide into two groups.

**Group A T.4** Listen to Pauline Peters and take notes about what she says happened.

**Group B T.5** Listen to Iris Fish and take notes about what she says happened.

2. Find a partner from the other group and report what you heard. Find the differences. Begin like this.

**A** *Pauline admitted that they sometimes argued. She said that ...*

**B** *Iris complained that they argued every night. She said that ...*

3. Write the report for the police records.

## VOCABULARY AND PRONUNCIATION

### **Birth, marriage and death**

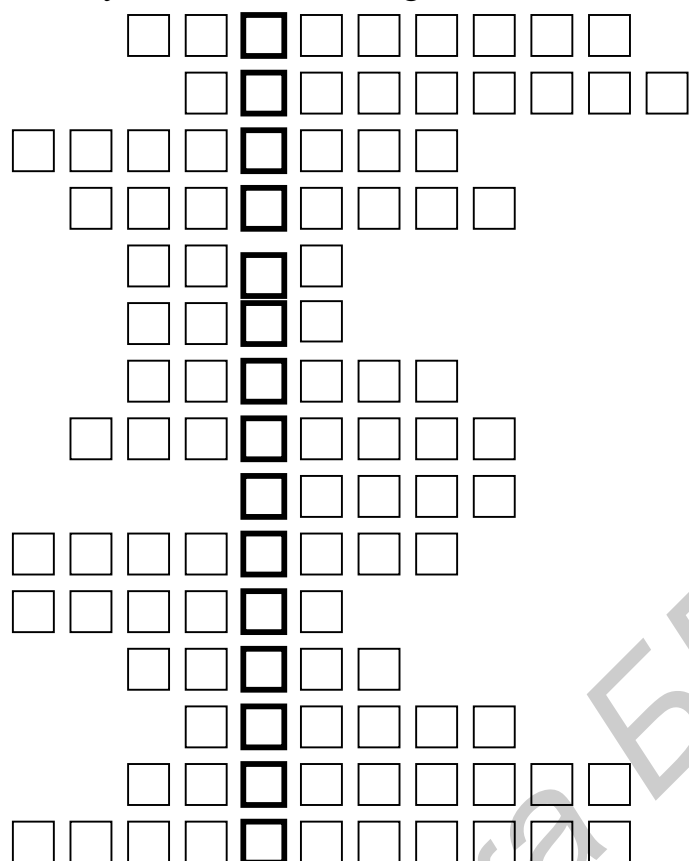
1. Use your dictionary to sort the following words and phrases into the categories: **Birth**                      **Marriage**                      **Death**

cot	bouquet	funeral	to get engaged
grave	pregnant	godmother	to have a baby
nappy	reception	cemetery	best man
grief	to bury	widow	maternity leave
wedding	bonnet	christening	bridegroom
pram	mourners	honeymoon	to get divorced
wreath	coffin	sympathy	to exchange rings

2. Decipher the phonetic script to complete the puzzle. Find out the vertical word.

- 1) Three hundred people came to our /ri'sep n/ after the wedding.
- 2) I am my niece's /' dm /.
- 3) Thousand of /'m :n z/ attended the king's funeral.
- 4) My sister is four months /'pre n nt/.
- 5) Our dog likes to /'beri/ his bone.
- 6) My daughter loves playing with her dolls' /pr m/.
- 7) His brother was his /bes'm n/.
- 8) The bridesmaid caught the /b 'kei/.
- 9) In Britain you get eleven weeks' maternity /li:v/.
- 10) You haven't shown me very much /'simp i/ for my toothache.
- 11) The Queen laid a /ri: / at the grave of the Unknown Soldier.
- 12) They say that old Bill died of / ri:f / after his wife died.
- 13) The emperor was buried in a gold /'k fin/.
- 14) Where did John and Liz go on their /'h nimu:n/?

15) The baby screamed throughout the /'krisni /.



3. What happens at births, weddings and funerals in your country?

### Reading and listening (1)

T.6 Read and listen to the story. What impression do you form of the characters of the two women? Have they met before?

#### DAVID COPPERFIELD

I was born at Blunderstone, in Suffolk. I was a posthumous child. My father's eyes had closed upon the light of this world six months when mine opened on it.

On the afternoon of that eventful and important Friday, my mother was sitting by the fire, very timid and sad, and very doubtful of ever coming alive out of the trial that was before her, when, lifting her eyes to the window opposite, she saw a strange lady coming up the garden. When she reached the house, instead of ringing the bell, she came and looked in at that window, pressing her nose against the glass. She gave my mother such a turn, that I have always been convinced I am indebted to Miss Betsy for having been born on a Friday. Then she made a frown and a gesture to my mother, like one who was accustomed to being obeyed, to come and open the door. My mother went.



‘Mrs David Copperfield, I *think*,’ said Miss Betsy.

‘Yes,’ said my mother faintly.

‘Miss Trotwood,’ said the visitor. ‘You have heard of me, I dare say?’

My mother answered that she had had the pleasure.

‘Take off your cap, child,’ said Miss Betsy, ‘and let me see you. Why, bless my heart! You are a very baby!’

My mother was, no doubt, unusually youthful in appearance; she hung her head, as if it was her fault, poor thing, and said sobbing, that indeed she was afraid she was but a childish widow, and would be a childish mother *if* she lived.

‘Well?’ said Miss Betsy. ‘And when do you expect?’

‘I am all in a tremble,’ faltered my mother. ‘I don’t know what’s the matter. I shall die, I am sure!’

‘No, no, no,’ said Miss Betsy. ‘Have some tea. I have no doubt it will be a girl. I have a presentiment of the birth of this girl...’

‘Perhaps boy...’

‘Don’t contradict. From the moment of this girl’s birth, child, I intend to be her friend. I intend to be her godmother, and I beg you’ll call her Betsy Trotwood Copperfield. There must be no mistakes in life with *this* Betsy Trotwood. She must be well brought up. I must make that *my* care.’

### Comprehension check

Read the passage again and answer the questions. Use your dictionary to check new words.

*forceful shy confident frightened weak strong miserable  
impatient bossy meek insensitive motherly severe flustered*

- Which of the following adjectives describe David’s mother and which describe Betsy Trotwood? Which word describes neither of them?
- Why was David a ‘posthumous child’? When had his father died? What was his father’s name?
- Why is that Friday called ‘eventful and important’?
- What is ‘the trial’?
- Why is David ‘indebted to Miss Betsy for having been born on a Friday’? Why does Miss Betsy call David’s mother ‘child’? How many reasons can you find as to why David’s mother is sad and frightened?
- What is Betsy Trotwood absolutely certain about?

### WRITING

#### Correcting mistakes

- Kati was a student of English in London, where she stayed with the

Bennett family. She has now returned home. Read the letter she has written to Mr and Mrs Bennett. Her English has improved but there are still over 25 mistakes. How many can you find?

Szerens u.43  
Budapest 1125  
Hungary  
Friday 6 September

Dear Mr and Mrs Bennett

I am home now since two weeks, but I have to start work immediately, so this is the first time is possible for me to write. How are you all? Are you busy as usual? Does Andrew still work hard for his exam next month? I am miss you a lot and also all my friends from my English class. Yesterday I've received a letter from my Greece friend, Christina, and she told about some of the other students. She say that Etsuko and Yukiko will write me from Japan. I am lucky because I made so many good friends during I was in England. It was really interesting for me to meet people from so many different countries. I think that we not only improved our English (I hope this!) but we also knew people from all over the world and this is important.

My family are fine. They had a good summer hollyday by the lake. We are all very exciting because my brother will get married just before Christmas and we like very much his girlfriend. They have looked for a flat near the city center but it is no easy to find one. If they won't find one soon they will have to stay here with us.

Please can you check something for me? I can't find my red scarf. I think maybe I have forgotten it in the cupboard in my bedroom.

Please write soon. My family send best wishes to you all. I hope I can come back next year. Stay with you was a very wonderful experience for me. Thank you for all things and excuse my mistakes. I already forget go much words.

Love

Kati

PS I hope you like the photo. It's nice, isn't it?

2. Compare the mistakes you have found with a partner. Correct the letter
3. Write a thank-you letter to someone you have stayed with.

### **Saying sorry**

1. Read the conversations and put the correct expression into the gap.

*(I'm) sorry      I am sorry      Pardon      Excuse me      What*

- a) '\_\_\_, can you tell me where the post office is?' '\_\_\_, I'm a stranger

- here myself.’
- b) ‘Ouch! That’s my foot!’ ‘\_\_\_\_. I wasn’t looking where I was going.’
- c) ‘\_\_\_\_, what’s that creature called?’ ‘It’s a Diplodocus.’  
 ‘\_\_\_\_.’ ‘A Diplodocus. D-I-P-L-O-D-O-C-U-S.’  
 ‘Thank you very much.’
- d) ‘I failed my driving test for the sixth time!’ ‘\_\_\_\_.’
- e) ‘\_\_\_\_! We need to get past. My little boy isn’t feeling well.’
- f) ‘Do you want your hearing aid, Grandma?’ ‘\_\_\_\_?’  
 ‘I said: *Do you want your hearing aid?*’ ‘\_\_\_\_?’  
 ‘DO YOU WANT YOUR HEARING AID?!’  
 ‘\_\_\_\_, I can’t hear you. I need my hearing aid.’

**2. T.7** Listen and check your answers. Act out the conversations, paying particular attention to stress and intonation.

**3.** What exactly would you say in the following situations? Respond in one or two sentences.

- a) You were cut off in the middle of an important phone call to a business colleague. You think there is a problem with the switchboard in your office. You ring your colleague back.
- b) You want the attention of the waiter in a very crowded restaurant. You want another large bottle of fizzy mineral water for your table.
- c) A friend tells you that she can’t meet you for lunch as planned next Thursday because she suddenly has to go to an aunt’s funeral.
- d) Your daughter, aged fourteen, tells you that she wants to go to an all-night party and take a bottle of your whisky with her.
- e) You thought you had bought a medium jumper, but when you get it home you see it’s the wrong size. You take it back to the shop.
- f) You ask for directions in a foreign country, but you don’t understand the reply. Ask the person to say it again.
- g) You want to get off a very crowded train at the next stop. You have a huge suitcase.
- h) Your dinner guest reminds you that he is a vegetarian. You have just put a huge steak on his plate.

# 12

Reported speech  
*ask* and *tell*  
*speak* and *talk*

---

**Reported statements and questions**

**1. An argument**

Brian and Thelma have just returned from their honeymoon in Barbados. They had a terrible time and they have just had their first big argument.

1. Read the report of the argument in Thelma's diary.

**September 24**  
Sunday

Brian and I had our first big row last night – all about our honeymoon, of course. It was horrible! We shouted at each other!

He told me that it was my fault that we'd gone to Barbados and that it had cost a fortune and had been the worst holiday he had ever had.

I said that there was nothing wrong with Barbados, it was very beautiful, but the travel firm were to blame. Their brochure had promised all kinds of things about the hotel and it had all been lies. I told him that he had no right to blame me and I started crying.

Brian said he was sorry and that he knew that it wasn't my fault really. He said that he would go to the travel agent first thing in the morning and that he would tell them about everything that had gone wrong. I said that I would go, too, because I was going to ask for our money back or another holiday.

Let's see what happens tomorrow!!

2. Write the actual words of their argument.

<b>Brian</b>	It's your fault that ____
	I'm ____
<b>Thelma</b>	There's ____
	I'll ____

## 2. But you said ...

Read the holiday brochure and complete the conversation between Brian (B), Thelma (T) and travel agent(TA).

### THE HOLIDAY OF YOUR DREAMS

#### The Copa D'or Hotel Barbados

##### Location

- You will fly there on Concorde in just two hours.
- The hotel is twenty minutes from the airport.
- It has four acres of tropical gardens.

##### Facilities

- Your room will have wonderful views over the sea.
- The beautiful gardens lead directly onto the beach.
- There are 2 swimming pools and 3 tennis courts.
- We cater especially for honeymoon couples.

TA Good morning. It's Mr and Mrs Boswell, isn't it? Did you have a good time in Barbados?

**T** No, we did not! Where shall we begin? The flight. Why did your brochure say that we (a)\_\_\_ there in just *two* hours. Concorde takes *four* hours. Didn't you know that?

**B** Then you said that the hotel (b)\_\_\_ only twenty minutes from the airport and that it (c)\_\_\_ large tropical gardens. Not true! The drive from the airport took an hour, and where are the gardens? Your brochure said that these gardens (d)\_\_\_ directly onto the beach but we couldn't see any tropical gardens, not even one palm tree! The next hotel had them but not ours! And you said there (e)\_\_\_ swimming pools and tennis courts-not in our hotel!

**T** And the rooms! you said that we (f)\_\_\_ wonderful views over the sea, but we couldn't see the sea. Only the weather was good! It was a miserable honeymoon!

### 3. Reporting words and thoughts

1. Report the statements in the next column using the verbs given.

**Example:** 'I'll miss you very much,' he said to her.

He told her that *he'd miss her very much.*

- |  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| a) 'I'm going to Paris soon.'                        | She said ____.                   |
| b) 'The film will be interesting.'                   | I thought ____.                  |
| c) 'I can't help you because I have too much to do.' | She said ____.                   |
| d) 'Ann has bought the tickets.'                     | I was told ____.                 |
| e) 'I think it's a stupid idea, and it won't work.'  | She said ____.                   |
| f) 'Breakfast is served between 7.00 and 9.00.'      |                                  |
|  | The receptionist explained ____. |
| g) 'I went to Oxford University in the 60s.'         | He boasted ____.                 |
| h) 'I've never been to America,' she said to me.     | She told ____.                   |

2. Report the following questions.

**Example:** 'Where are you going?'

She asked me *where I was going.*

- |   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| a) 'Do you want to go out for a meal?'        | She asked me ____.                 |
| b) 'Why are you late?'" they asked her.       | They wondered ____.                |
| c) 'Can I use your phone?'                    | He asked me ____.                  |
| d) 'Why have you come from?'                  |                                    |
|   | The customs officer asked me ____. |
| e) 'How long are you going to be on holiday?' | She wanted to know ____.           |
| f) 'When do you have to go to work?'          | She asked me ____.                 |
| g) 'Did you post my letter?'                  | Penny wondered ____.               |
| h) 'Will you be back early?'                  | He asked her ____.                 |

3. Complete the direct questions. **A** is Mrs Smith, who is talking to **B**, a bank manager, about getting a loan.

**B** Come and sit down, Mrs Smith.

**A** Thank you very much.

**B** Now, you want to borrow some money. (a) \_\_\_?

**A** Five thousand pounds.

**B** (b) \_\_\_?

**A** Because I want to buy a car.

**B** I see. Could you give me some personal details? (c) \_\_\_?

**A** I'm a computer programmer.

**B** And (d) \_\_\_?

**A** Twenty thousand pounds a year.

**B** (e) \_\_\_?

**A** Yes, I am. I've been married for six years.

**B** (f) \_\_\_?

**A** Yes, I've got two children.

**B** I see you live in a flat. (g) \_\_\_?

**A** We've lived there for three years.

**B** Well, that seems fine. I don't think there'll be any problems. (h) \_\_\_?

**A** I'd like it as soon as possible, actually.

**B** All right. Let's see what we can do.

4. Report the bank manager's questions.

a) First he asked Mrs Smith \_\_\_

b) Then he wanted to know \_\_\_

c) He needed to know \_\_\_

d) She had to tell him \_\_\_

e) Then he asked \_\_\_

f) For some reason, he wanted to know \_\_\_

g) He asked her \_\_\_

h) Finally he wondered \_\_\_

### Reported commands

#### 4. *She advised me to ...*

Chose the most appropriate verb to report each of the sentences. Remember they all follow the pattern verb + infinitive.

*persuade order ask advise tell encourage invite beg remind*

**Example:** 'If I were you, I'd go to the doctor's,' he said to me.

*He advised me to go to the doctor's.*

a) 'Could you possibly do me a favour?' she asked Tom.

b) 'Hand in your essays next week,' the teacher told the class.

c) 'Don't forget to post the letter,' my wife said to me.

d) 'Come and have dinner with us,' Rosie said to John.

- e) 'You must pay a fine of one hundred pounds,' the judge said to Edward Fox.
- f) 'Buy the red dress, not the green one,' Betty said to Jane. 'It's much, much nicer.' 'Mmm ... I'm not sure. OK, I'll buy the red one. You're right!' said Jane.
- g) 'You really should paint professionally,' said Gill to Henry. 'You're really good at it.'
- h) 'Please, please don't tell my father,' she said to me.
- i) 'I think you should sell your shares,' his accountant said to Bill.

### **ask and tell**

#### **5. Statements, questions, and commands**

Report the sentences using *ask* or *tell*.

- a) 'Leave me alone!' she said to him.
- b) 'Please don't go!' he asked her.
- c) 'I'm going to bed now,' he said to Anne.
- d) 'How much do you earn, Dad?' asked Jeremy.
- e) 'Shut up!' said the teacher to the class.
- f) 'Can you phone back later, Mr Brown?' asked the secretary.
- g) 'You did very well in the test,' said the teacher to everyone.
- h) 'Don't walk on the grass! the park keeper told the children.
- i) 'Are you ready to go?' Sally asked Bill.
- j) 'It's time to get up!' said John to his daughter.

#### **6. Other reporting verbs**

Notice the following groups of reporting verbs.

complain		
admit		refuse
deny	that ...	offer
suggest		agree
boast		promise
		to do ...

Report the sentences, using one of the verbs in the boxes.

**Example:** 'I think it would be a very good idea for you to go to bed,' the doctor said to Paul.

*The doctor suggested that Paul went to bed.*

- a) 'Yes, okay. I'll lend you my car but be careful with it!' Peter said to Ann.
- b) 'Yes, it was me. I stole the money,' said Bill.
- c) 'But I didn't hit the old lady,' said Bill.
- d) 'I can speak eleven languages, all perfectly,' said the professor.
- e) 'I'll leave work early, honest I will,' Angela said.

- f) 'Ugh! My soup is cold!' said Henry.  
 g) 'I won't help you with your homework. Never!' Jane said to me.  
 h) 'I'll give you a lift to the station, if you like,' Kate said to Megan.  
 i) 'What about if we meet on Thursday?' Mark said to James.  
 'That's fine,' said James.

### 7. *Speak and talk*

Fill the gaps in the conversation with one of the following verbs in its correct form.

*say tell explain speak talk reply ask*

I was walking in town the other day when I met old Mr Brown, so we stopped and (a)\_\_\_ for a while. He (b)\_\_\_ me that his wife, Jenny, had been taken into hospital. It was just a routine check. I (c)\_\_\_ him how Jenny was, and he (d)\_\_\_ she was getting better.

I (e)\_\_\_ Mr Brown to give his wife my regards. He wondered why I hadn't been to tennis club recently, so I (f)\_\_\_ that I'd been very busy and just hadn't had time.

'There's something you must (g)\_\_\_ me,' Mr Brown suddenly said. 'How many languages does your son (h)\_\_\_?'

'Four,' I (i)\_\_\_. 'Why?'

'Well, I know your son has some very funny stories to (j)\_\_\_ about his trips abroad and his language learning. We're having a meeting of the Travellers' Club next week, and I'd like him to come along and (k)\_\_\_ to us.'

I (l)\_\_\_ that I would (m)\_\_\_ to my son about it, and I promised to get back in touch with him.

Then we (n)\_\_\_ goodbye and went our separate ways.

### Vocabulary

#### 8. Birth, death and marriage

1. Fill the gaps with one of the following words

*birth birthday born.*

- a) Where were you \_\_\_?  
 b) When is your \_\_\_?  
 c) I was \_\_\_ in Africa.  
 g) Congratulations on the \_\_\_ of little Albert.
- d) She gave \_\_\_ to a beautiful healthy boy.  
 e) (On an official form) PLACE OF \_\_\_  
 f) What are you doing for your \_\_\_ this year?

2. Fill the gaps with one of the following words:

*dying dead died death die*

- a) Shakespeare \_\_\_ in 1616.  
 b) Her father's \_\_\_ came as a great surprise. He was only 45.  
 c) Those flowers have \_\_\_. Throw them away.



- d) Every winter thousands of birds \_\_\_\_ in the cold weather.
- e) 'Is old Bertie Harrison still alive?'  
 'I'm sure he's \_\_\_\_\_. Didn't he \_\_\_\_\_ a few years ago?'
- f) Our poor old cat is \_\_\_\_\_. We've had her for fifteen years. She just sits on the chair all day long. She's still got a good appetite, though.
- g) He was stabbed to \_\_\_\_\_ by a maniac in a dark alley.
- h) She screamed when she saw the \_\_\_\_\_ body lying across the carpet.
- i) My father \_\_\_\_\_ three years ago. My mother has been \_\_\_\_\_ for ages.
- j) 'When did your dog \_\_\_\_\_? What did it \_\_\_\_\_ of?'  
 'He had a heart attack. One minute he was fine, the next minute he was \_\_\_\_\_.'

3. Put one of the following words into each gap. Sometimes more than one is possible.

*get married    marry    been married    got married    married*

- a) 'Are you \_\_\_\_\_?' 'No, I'm single. But I'd like to \_\_\_\_\_ some day.'
- b) Whatever happened to Ann?  
 'She met a German boy one week and \_\_\_\_\_ him the next.'
- c) I'm never going to \_\_\_\_\_ again. Twice is enough.
- d) How many times have you \_\_\_\_\_?
- e) Darling, I love you. Will you \_\_\_\_\_ me?
- f) We had a lovely wedding. We \_\_\_\_\_ in a small country church, then had the reception in the local hotel.
- g) Did you hear? James and Henrietta \_\_\_\_\_ last week.
- h) Richard Burton \_\_\_\_\_ Elizabeth Taylor twice.
- i) We're engaged, and we're going to \_\_\_\_\_ next autumn.

### Multi-word verbs

#### 9. Multi-word verbs with two particles

Complete the following sentences using one of the combinations

*back on    away from    out of    forward to    on with    down on    up with*

- a) We've run \_\_\_\_\_ sugar. Could you buy some more?
- b) We must try to cut \_\_\_\_\_ the amount of money we spend. We're always broke at the end of the month.
- c) Please don't let me disturb you. Carry \_\_\_\_\_ your work.
- d) Keep \_\_\_\_\_ me! I've got a terrible cold, and I don't want you catch it.
- e) She's such a snob. She looks \_\_\_\_\_ anyone that doesn't have all the things she has.
- f) Children grow \_\_\_\_\_ their clothes so quickly. It costs a fortune!
- g) How do you get \_\_\_\_\_ your parents? OK?
- h) I don't know how you put \_\_\_\_\_ such noisy neighbours. It would drive me crazy.

- i) When I look \_\_\_ my childhood, I realize how unhappy I was.
- j) I'm really looking \_\_\_ our holidays next week. I'm so excited!

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