

Lesson Plan: Reported questions (indirect questions)

Level: Intermediate (B1–B2)

Time: 60–75 minutes

Objectives

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

- Change **direct questions** into **reported questions**
- Use correct **word order** (no auxiliary *do/does/did*)
- Apply appropriate **tense changes** and **question words**
- Use reported questions in speaking and writing

Materials

- Whiteboard / slides
- Handout with exercises
- Short dialogues with questions

1. Warm-up (10 minutes)

Activity: "What did they ask?"

1. Write direct questions on the board:

"Where do you live?"

"Are you tired?"

"Did you finish the homework?"

2. Ask:

How can you tell someone else what was asked?

3. Elicit examples:

She asked where I lived.

He asked if I was tired.

Introduce the term **reported questions**.

2. Presentation: form & rules (15 minutes)

A. Key rules

Explain that reported questions:

- **Do not use question word order**
- **Do not use do/does/did**
- Often begin with **asked, wanted to know, wondered**

B. Wh-questions

Structure:

asked + question word + subject + verb

Examples:

"Where are you going?"
→ She asked **where I was going**.

"What did he say?"
→ She asked **what he had said**.

C. Yes/no questions

Use **if** or **whether**.

Examples:

"Are you ready?"
→ He asked **if I was ready**.
"Did they call you?"
→ She asked **whether they had called me**.

D. Tense changes (quick review)

Direct Question Reported Question

present →	past
past →	past perfect
will →	would

Explain that tense changes usually happen when the reporting verb is in the past.

3. Controlled practice (15 minutes)

Activity 1: Rewrite the questions

Students change direct questions into reported questions.

1. "What time is it?"
2. "Where did she go?"
3. "Can you help me?"
4. "Have they finished?"

Students work individually, then compare answers in pairs.

4. Guided practice (15 minutes)

Activity 2: Dialogue to paragraph

Give students a short dialogue with questions:

*"Where are you working now?" she asked.
"Did you enjoy the movie?" he asked.*

Students rewrite it as reported questions in a short paragraph.

Encourage attention to:

- word order
- tense changes
- pronouns

5. Communicative practice (15 minutes)

Activity 3: Ask & report

1. Students work in pairs.
2. Student A interviews Student B with 3–4 questions.
3. Student A reports to another pair or the class:

She asked me what I was studying.

She wanted to know if I liked online classes.

Focus on communication over accuracy.

6. Review & error correction (5 minutes)

1. Write typical errors on the board:

✗ *She asked where did I go.*

✗ *He asked did I like it.*

2. Students correct them together.

Reinforce:

- No question word order
- Use **if/whether** for yes/no questions

7. Homework (optional)

Choose one:

- Write 5 reported questions about what your teacher or classmates asked today
- Convert a short interview into reported questions