

C1

REPORTED SPEECH

≈ 27 MIN

Advanced Reported Speech Shifts – *practice on paper*

You already control backshift and reporting viewpoint; now reinforce current facts, modal shifts, and reporting verbs with fresh examples.

Keep facts that remain valid **current** ; shift time, place, and modals when the later **viewpoint** requires it.

NAME

DATE

YOUR BUILD

1 · SORTING



2 · FILL-IN



3 · CORRECT



4 · WRITE



BRICK 1 · SORT BY REPORTING VIEWPOINT · APPROX. 4 MIN



Sort each statement. On the left, the information is explicitly current; on the right, the form shows a later reporting point.

The cutoff remains this Friday.

The office remains here.

The policy still applies today.

The figures are still final.

The client can still join today.

She would send it the next day.

They could finish it there.

He had to leave that afternoon.

The launch was the following month.

Mara might call later that day.

KEPT CURRENT	SHIFTED LATER

BRICK 2 · SHIFT ONLY WHAT CHANGES · APPROX. 6 MIN



Complete the appropriate form. Check whether the content still holds or is reported from a later viewpoint.

- 01 The schedule still stands, so Lena said it _____ valid. (be)
02 They said they _____ share the file the next day. (will)
03 Jon said he _____ meet us there that day. (can)
04 HR said we _____ badge in that morning. (must)
05 The address is unchanged, so she confirmed it _____ correct. (be)
06 The lead said the team _____ need help the following week. (may)
07 Nora said she would wait _____ that night. (here)
08 They said they could begin _____ . (now)

YOUR BUILD

1 · SORTING

2 · FILL-IN

3 · CORRECT

4 · WRITE

BRICK 3 · CORRECT THE REPORTING ERROR · APPROX. 7 MIN



Each sentence contains exactly one error in shifting or reporting-verb pattern. Rewrite the complete sentence correctly.

01 Nina suggested me to shorten the call.

.....

02 The chair insisted us to restart the review.

.....

03 In the later summary, Leo said he will send it.

.....

04 HR said we musted sign in that morning.

.....

05 Keep the live fact current: Mia said the address was valid.

.....

06 Sam pointed that our launch date had moved.

.....

BRICK 4 · REPORT WITH A CLEAR VIEWPOINT · APPROX. 8 MIN



Write one English sentence or mini-paragraph for each prompt. Let the context justify your shifts.

01 Minutes: report a delivery date that is still valid in the present, plus a completed earlier promise at a distance.

.....

02 Follow-up: shift will, can, and two time or place references from an earlier announcement.

.....

03 Press line: use claim, deny, and confirm so that the source's stance remains clear.

.....

04 Feedback: give one suggestion with a gerund and one forceful statement with insist plus a that-clause.

.....

MINI-CHECK – CAN I DO THIS YET?

- ☐ I first check whether the reported information remains valid.
- ☐ I shift the modal plus time and place references from the same viewpoint.
- ☐ I use suggest with a gerund or that-clause, not an object plus to-infinitive.
- ☐ I choose claim, deny, confirm, point out, and insist by the source's stance.

Unsure? Mark the original time, reporting point, and current factual status, then try the sheet again.



Answer key

Check only when you have finished. Every answer comes with the **why** — the rule matters more than the result.

BRICK 1 · SORTING

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>01 The cutoff remains this Friday.
<i>Kept current: present + remains.</i></p> <p>02 The office remains here.
<i>Kept current: present + here.</i></p> <p>03 The policy still applies today.
<i>Kept current: still + today.</i></p> <p>04 The figures are still final.
<i>Kept current: are + still.</i></p> <p>05 The client can still join today.
<i>Kept current: can + today.</i></p> | <p>06 She would send it the next day.
<i>Shifted later: would + next day.</i></p> <p>07 They could finish it there.
<i>Shifted later: could + there.</i></p> <p>08 He had to leave that afternoon.
<i>Shifted later: had to + that afternoon.</i></p> <p>09 The launch was the following month.
<i>Shifted later: was + following month.</i></p> <p>10 Mara might call later that day.
<i>Shifted later: might + that day.</i></p> |
|---|--|

BRICK 2 · FILL-IN

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>01 Lena said it is valid.
<i>Current fact: still valid requires is.</i></p> <p>02 They would share it the next day.
<i>Modal shift: will becomes would.</i></p> <p>03 Jon could meet us there that day.
<i>Modal shift: can becomes could.</i></p> <p>04 We had to badge in that morning.
<i>Obligation shift: must becomes had to.</i></p> | <p>05 She confirmed it is correct.
<i>Current fact: unchanged requires is.</i></p> <p>06 The team might need help the following week.
<i>Modal shift: may becomes might.</i></p> <p>07 Nora would wait there that night.
<i>Place shift: here becomes there.</i></p> <p>08 They said they could begin then.
<i>Time shift: now becomes then.</i></p> |
|--|--|

BRICK 3 · CORRECT

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>01 Nina suggested shortening the call.
<i>Suggest rule: gerund without object.</i></p> <p>02 The chair insisted that we restart the review.
<i>Insist rule: that-clause.</i></p> <p>03 In the later summary, Leo said he would send it.
<i>Modal shift: will becomes would.</i></p> | <p>04 HR said we had to sign in that morning.
<i>Obligation shift: must becomes had to.</i></p> <p>05 Keep the live fact current: Mia said the address is valid.
<i>Current fact: live requires is.</i></p> <p>06 Sam pointed out that our launch date had moved.
<i>Point-out rule: out + that-clause.</i></p> |
|---|--|

BRICK 4 · WRITE

Check validity, shift, and complement; register is a tendency.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>01 Jules confirmed that delivery is still due on Tuesday, but added that the carrier had promised an earlier slot.
<i>Viewpoint: is current; had promised distant.</i></p> <p>02 The team said it would upload the file the next morning and could review it there.
<i>Shift: would/could + new time-place reference.</i></p> | <p>03 The vendor claimed the total was correct, denied hiding a fee, and later confirmed the revised amount.
<i>Tendency, formal: precise reporting verbs.</i></p> <p>04 Rosa suggested adding a second check and insisted that we document every change.
<i>Complement: suggest + -ing; insist + that.</i></p> |
|--|--|

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