

## Practice Exercises – Reported Speech (Reported Statements)

Review *Reported Statements* before doing the exercises.

### Practice Exercises - Reported Speech (Reported Statements):

Choose the answer that is grammatically correct in the context of the sentence. There is only one correct answer.

1. Bill: "I like your cake very much." Bill said that he \_\_\_\_\_ my cake very much.
  - a. like
  - b. liked
  - c. 'd like
  - d. liking
  
2. Boss: "I'll be out of town tomorrow." The boss told his secretary that he \_\_\_\_\_ out of town the next day.
  - a. 'd be
  - b. 'd been
  - c. 's been
  - d. were going
  
3. Jill: "I may not go out tonight because I don't feel well." Jill told me that she \_\_\_\_\_ go out in the evening because she didn't feel well.
  - a. mustn't
  - b. wouldn't
  - c. couldn't
  - d. might not
  
4. Mike: "It was raining at 7 p.m. last night." He told me that it \_\_\_\_\_ at 7 p.m. the previous evening.
  - a. is raining
  - b. had been raining
  - c. 's been raining
  - d. has rained
  
5. Andy: "I'm not going canoeing this weekend." Andy said that he \_\_\_\_\_ canoeing that weekend.
  - a. wasn't going
  - b. hadn't gone
  - c. doesn't go
  - d. hasn't gone
  
6. Mother: "You must get better marks." My mother told me that I \_\_\_\_\_ get better marks.
  - a. had to
  - b. have
  - c. might
  - d. may
  
7. Sal: "I didn't go out last night." Sal told me that he \_\_\_\_\_ out the previous evening.
  - a. wouldn't go
  - b. doesn't go
  - c. hadn't gone
  - d. hasn't gone
  
8. Ben: "Al's known his wife since they were children." Ben told me Al \_\_\_\_\_ his wife since they were children.
  - a. knows
  - b. known
  - c. knew
  - d. had known
  
9. Al: "I'm not going to buy a Volvo any more." Al says that he \_\_\_\_\_ going to buy a Volvo any more.
  - a. isn't
  - b. won't
  - c. hasn't
  - d. doesn't

**Practice Exercises - Reported Speech (Reported Statements):**

10. Teacher: "Shakespeare had written many plays before he died." The teacher told us that Shakespeare \_\_\_\_\_ many plays before he died.  
a. written  
b. writes  
c. was written  
d. had written
11. Mary: "Susan has been working very hard lately." Mary told me that her daughter \_\_\_\_\_ very hard lately.  
a. works  
b. working  
c. was worked  
d. had been working
12. Bea: "Sylvia called me at 10 p.m. last night." Bea said that Sylvia \_\_\_\_\_ her at 10 p.m. the other night.  
a. is calling  
b. had called  
c. calls  
d. has called
13. "I wasn't watching a film when you called last night." I told Cathy that I \_\_\_\_\_ a film when she called the other night.  
a. didn't watch  
b. 'm not watching  
c. hadn't been watching  
d. haven't watched
14. Nora: "I can speak German very well." Nora told me that she \_\_\_\_\_ speak German very well.  
a. has  
b. could  
c. might  
d. had
15. "We don't go to bed before midnight." I told Rose that we \_\_\_\_\_ to bed before midnight.  
a. didn't go  
b. hadn't gone  
c. haven't been going  
d. not going
16. John: "I won't play the lottery any more." John promised me that he \_\_\_\_\_ the lottery any more.  
a. doesn't play  
b. wouldn't play  
c. hasn't played  
d. didn't play
17. "Sonia isn't singing very well tonight." I told my husband that Sonia \_\_\_\_\_ very well tonight.  
a. wasn't singing  
b. doesn't sing  
c. won't sing  
d. not singing
18. Ed: "We had been talking about Lee when she walked into the room." Ed told us that they \_\_\_\_\_ about Lee when she walked into the room.  
a. 've been talking  
b. 've talked  
c. 'd been talking  
d. 'll talk
19. Mike: "I couldn't ride a bike when I was ten." Mike admitted that he \_\_\_\_\_ a bike when he was ten.  
a. can't ride  
b. hasn't ridden  
c. 'd better ride  
d. couldn't ride

**Practice Exercises - Reported Speech (Reported Statements):**

20. Judith: "I might be late for dinner tonight." Judith warned us that she \_\_\_\_\_ be late for dinner that evening.  
a. might  
b. will  
c. had  
d. would
21. Dog owner: "You haven't been annoying my puppy!" The dog owner assured me that I \_\_\_\_\_ her puppy.  
a. wasn't annoying  
b. am not annoying  
c. wouldn't be annoying  
d. hadn't been annoying
22. Dan: "You should call your sister more often." Dan told me that I \_\_\_\_\_ call my sister more often.  
a. 'd rather  
b. may  
c. should  
d. can
23. Doctor: "You haven't been taking your pills regularly!" The doctor told Joe that he \_\_\_\_\_ his pills regularly.  
a. haven't been taking  
b. hadn't been taking  
c. don't take  
d. wasn't taken
24. "Mia is going to play the piano for us." I told my guests that my daughter \_\_\_\_\_ to play the piano for them.  
a. was going  
b. will  
c. would  
d. had
25. Rae: "Brian could swim like a fish when he was three." Rae told me that her son \_\_\_\_\_ swim like a fish when he was three.  
a. can  
b. had  
c. could  
d. has
26. Jill: "I used to have a cat when I was a child." Jill said that she \_\_\_\_\_ to have a cat when she was a child.  
a. would  
b. had used  
c. used  
d. was
27. "I hadn't finished preparing lunch yesterday when my husband arrived home." I told my friend that I \_\_\_\_\_ preparing lunch when my husband arrived home the other day.  
a. hadn't finished  
b. haven't finished  
c. wasn't finishing  
d. 'm not finishing
28. Sandy: "I'd get another degree if I could." Sandy told me that she \_\_\_\_\_ get another degree if she could.  
a. would  
b. wants  
c. has  
d. ought
29. Bill: "You can't be right." Bill felt that his brother \_\_\_\_\_ right.  
a. may not be  
b. couldn't be  
c. hasn't been  
d. won't be

**Practice Exercises - Reported Speech (Reported Statements):**

30. "I hadn't been doing the housework before you arrived yesterday." I told Lee that I \_\_\_\_\_ the housework before she arrived yesterday.
- haven't been doing
  - hadn't been doing
  - don't do
  - 'm not doing
31. Mother: "You shouldn't always be so short-tempered!" Mother told me that I \_\_\_\_\_ be so short-tempered all the time.
- shouldn't
  - don't
  - haven't
  - won't
32. Bill: "Yesterday I had to work until 9 p.m." Bill told me that the day before he \_\_\_\_\_ to work until 9 p.m.
- 'd had
  - 's had
  - has
  - 'll have
33. The weatherman: "It may rain tonight." The weatherman said that it \_\_\_\_\_ rain that evening.
- might
  - has
  - had
  - was
34. Tom: "I didn't use to go to the gym when I was younger." Tom said that he \_\_\_\_\_ to go to the gym when he was younger.
- didn't use
  - hadn't used
  - doesn't use
  - wouldn't
35. Abe: "I might not go to the football game tomorrow." Abe told me that he \_\_\_\_\_ go to the football game the following day.
- might not
  - didn't
  - mustn't
  - shouldn't
36. Jan: "You'd better hurry up or you'll be late." She told me that I \_\_\_\_\_ better hurry up or I would be late.
- had
  - would
  - should
  - could
37. Jill: "I wouldn't wear tight jeans because I'm fat." Jill says she \_\_\_\_\_ wear tight jeans because she's fat.
- wouldn't
  - can't
  - hadn't
  - not wearing
38. Myra: "You ought to have your hair cut." Joe's wife reminded him that he \_\_\_\_\_ have his hair cut.
- ought to
  - can
  - will
  - had

**Practice Exercises - Reported Speech (Reported Statements):**

39. Mom: "Dinner's ready." Mom says that dinner \_\_\_\_\_ ready.

- a. has
- b. had
- c. is
- d. been

40. Rita: "I was eating pasta at 9 p.m. last night." Rita said that she \_\_\_\_\_ pasta at 9 p.m. the previous evening.

- a. was going to eat
- b. 'd been eating
- c. 's been eating
- d. 's eating

41. Joe: "I didn't recognize you." Joe told me that he \_\_\_\_\_ recognized me.

- a. doesn't
- b. won't
- c. hadn't
- d. wasn't

42. Sandra: "I have to go to the dentist tomorrow." Sandy said that she \_\_\_\_\_ to go to the dentist the next day.

- a. supposed
- b. had
- c. was allowed
- d. was having

43. "We haven't been to the seaside in ages." Al says that he and his family \_\_\_\_\_ to the seaside in ages.

- a. hadn't
- b. haven't been
- c. didn't
- d. aren't going

44. Carol: "I don't do the dishes right after dinner." Carol says that she \_\_\_\_\_ the dishes right after dinner.

- a. doesn't do
- b. not doing
- c. hasn't done
- d. hadn't done

45. Sheila: "I saw a great film at the Odeon last night." Sheila told me that she \_\_\_\_\_ a great film at the Odeon the previous evening.

- a. 's seen
- b. 'd seen
- c. 'll see
- d. 'd see

46. Customer: "I'd like a cup of tea." The customer says that he \_\_\_\_\_ a cup of tea.

- a. 'd like
- b. likes
- c. 'd liked
- d. 'll like

47. Ed: "I'd invited forty people to my party, but only twenty came." Ed said that he \_\_\_\_\_ forty people to his party, but only twenty had come.

- a. 's invited
- b. 'd invited
- c. was invited
- d. invite

48. Lisa: "You must watch the documentary on TV tonight." Lisa says that we \_\_\_\_\_ watch the documentary on TV this evening.

- a. must
- b. can
- c. have
- d. ought

**Practice Exercises - Reported Speech (Reported Statements):**

49. Professor: "The students have been reading some of Shakespeare's plays." The professor told the students' parents that they \_\_\_\_\_ some of Shakespeare's plays in class.

- a. 'd been reading
- b. should read
- c. must read
- d. 're going to read

50. Tom: "Mary always has dinner at 8 p.m." Tom says that Mary \_\_\_\_\_ dinner at 8 p.m.

- a. had
- b. has
- c. 'll have
- d. 's having

51. Professor: "I'm sure the experiment will be very successful." The professor told his class that he was sure the experiment \_\_\_\_\_ very successful.

- a. has been
- b. would be
- c. had
- d. will

52. "It won't be cold and windy this weekend." They say that it \_\_\_\_\_ cold and windy this coming weekend.

- a. mustn't be
- b. hasn't
- c. wouldn't
- d. won't be

53. Al: "When Pete was fired, he'd been working for Microsoft for two years." Al said that when Peter was fired he \_\_\_\_\_ for Microsoft for two years.

- a. 's worked
- b. 'd been working
- c. worked
- d. 'd work