

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.

- a. haven't been doing
- b. hadn't been doing
- c. don't do
- d. '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.

- a. shouldn't
- b. don't
- c. haven't
- d. 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.

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

33. The weatherman: "It may rain tonight." The weatherman said that it _____ rain that evening.

- a. might
- b. has
- c. had
- d. 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.

- a. didn't use
- b. hadn't used
- c. doesn't use
- d. 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.

- a. might not
- b. didn't
- c. mustn't
- d. 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.

- a. had
- b. would
- c. should
- d. could

37. Jill: "I wouldn't wear tight jeans because I'm fat." Jill says she _____ wear tight jeans because she's fat.

- a. wouldn't
- b. can't
- c. hadn't
- d. not wearing

38. Myra: "You ought to have your hair cut." Joe's wife reminded him that he _____ have his hair cut.

- a. ought to
- b. can
- c. will
- d. 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