

# Total English

Pre-intermediate

## What did they say?

- 1 Put the following sentences into reported speech using the verbs in brackets.
  - 1 Ariane: I apologise for my bad behaviour earlier on today. (tell)
  - 2 Pete: Anna is earning a really good salary in her new job. (tell)
  - 3 Lily: Dad's gone home. (say)
  - 4 Michael: I think he's finished his English lesson now. (tell)
  - 5 Jemma: I'll borrow some money from my sister for the concert. (say)
  - 6 Tim: I've never argued much with my brother. (say)
  - 7 Rose: I don't like borrowing money from people. (tell)
  - 8 Sue: Kim is working at the university until December. (say)
  
- 2 Change the following reported speech sentences into direct speech. Try to think about what the person actually said.
  - 1 He told me that he really wanted to study French at university.
  - 2 She said that he had worked in the bank since last summer.
  - 3 They told me that he was studying to retake some exams.
  - 4 I said that I was going to the gym.
  - 5 You told me you didn't like horror movies!
  - 6 She said she would contact him.
  - 7 They said they didn't argue with each other at all.
  - 8 She told me that she'd played for the Blues tennis club for six years.
  
- 3 Discuss questions 1-4 in pairs.
  - 1 How do you think that we perceive people who have lots of money in our society?
  - 2 If you could choose, which three professions would earn the most money? Why?
  - 3 How important is it to you to save money? Or do you prefer to spend the money you have?
  - 4 If you had some extra money to buy something special for two of your friends, what would you buy them? Why?
  
- 4 Report back to the class in brief on your partner's responses using reported speech for each of the questions from Ex. 3.



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## TEACHER'S NOTES:

**Aim:** to consolidate reported speech. This worksheet is designed to be used in conjunction with unit 12.2.

**Time:** 40 minutes maximum

**Materials:** photocopies of the worksheet for each student.

- 1 Tell students they have to convert the sentences into reported speech. If necessary do the first one with them as an example. Check answers with the class.

**Answers:** 1 She told me that she apologised for her bad behaviour earlier on today. 2 He told me that Anna was earning a really good salary in her new job. 3 She said that her Dad had gone home. 4 He told me that he thought he'd finished his English lesson now. 5 She said that she would borrow some money from her sister for the concert. 6 He said that he'd never argued much with his brother. 7 She told me that she didn't like borrowing money from people. 8 She said that Kim was working at the university until December.

- 2 In this exercise, students have to convert the reported speech into direct speech. Encourage them to make it sound as natural as possible. If necessary do the first one with them as an example. Check answers with the class.

**Answers:** 1 I really want to study French at university. 2 He has worked in the bank since last summer. 3 He's studying to retake some exams. 4 I'm going to the gym. 5 I don't like horror movies. 6 I'll contact him. 7 We don't argue with each other at all. 8 I've played for the Blues tennis club for six years.

- 3 In pairs students discuss the four questions.
- 4 Ask the students to report back to the class what their partner said using reported speech. Give error correction and feedback to round



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up the activity at the end.



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