

8.5

GRAMMAR

Reported Speech

I can make tense changes in reported speech.

1 Read the text and answer the questions.

- 1 What record has he broken?
- 2 What is his secret for a healthy life?



Stanislaw Kowalski

Stanislaw Kowalski has become the oldest person in Europe to run a 100-metre race. When he crossed the finishing line, the 104-year-old grandfather said that **he felt like a new man**. He said **he wasn't surprised that he had lived to such an old age**. He said **he had always done everything he wanted to do and he had never been to the doctor's**. He also said that **he had cycled or walked 10 km to work every day** of his working life. He told reporters that **he was looking forward to breaking the world record** for the 60-metre race, which he actually did half a year later.

2 Compare the Direct Speech 1–6 below with the Reported Speech in blue in the text. What changes are there to the verb forms and pronouns?

- 1 'I feel like a new man.'
- 2 'I'm not surprised that I've lived to such an old age.'
- 3 'I've always done everything I want to do.'
- 4 'I've never been to the doctor's.'
- 5 'I cycled or walked 10 km to work every day.'
- 6 'I am looking forward to breaking the world record.'

3 Read the GRAMMAR FOCUS. Complete the examples using the correct verb form.

GRAMMAR FOCUS 39

Reported Speech

In Reported Speech verb forms and pronouns change depending on the context.

Direct Speech	Reported Speech
Present Simple 'I work ,' she said.	→ Past Simple She said she worked .
Present Continuous 'He's working ,' we said.	→ Past Continuous We said he ¹ _____.
Present Perfect 'We've worked ,' he said.	→ Past Perfect He said they ² _____.
Past Simple 'She worked ,' they said.	→ Past Perfect They said she ³ _____.

REMEMBER THIS

Say + (that) something

He said that he felt like a new man.

Tell + somebody + (that) something

He told reporters that he was looking forward to breaking the world record.

4 Read the text. Rewrite sentences A–G in Reported Speech and use them to complete the text. Why didn't the officials believe Dharam?

- A I am 119 years old. = *He said he was 119 years old.*
 B He can't prove his age.
 C My secret is cow's milk.
 D Singh is lying about his age.
 E I am not only the oldest athlete in the world.
 F We understand that he has never known his real age.
 G I think the people who have accused me of lying are jealous.

Dharam Pal Singh

When Dharam Pal Singh, a farmer from India, entered an Australian Athletics competition, he told the officials that ¹*he was 119 years old*. He said that ²____, but he was also the oldest man in the world. The officials told reporters that ³____. They said that Singh had never had a birth certificate so ⁴____. They said that they liked him, and ⁵____. Singh said that ⁶____ of his health and his running ability. He told reporters that ⁷____, herbal chutney and fruit.

5 Choose the correct verb.

- My teacher *said / told* me I wasn't concentrating.
 2 He *said / told* I looked tired.
 3 I *said / told* him that I hadn't slept very well.
 4 I *said / told* I had watched a really scary film.
 5 I *said / told* him that was why I hadn't done my homework.
 6 He *said / told* I'd used that excuse before!

6 Rewrite the sentences in Exercise 5 in Direct Speech.

1 *You aren't concentrating.*

7 SPEAKING Follow the instructions to complete the task.

- 1 Tell your partner five true facts about yourself. Use some of the 'facts' in the box or your own ideas.

I am/am not tired I can/can't snowboard
 I like/don't like politics
 I've been/haven't been to London
 I'm going out/not going out tonight
 I watched/didn't watch TV last night

- 2 Your partner then reports back. How many facts can your partner remember correctly?

A: *You said you could snowboard.*
 B: *Yes, that's right.*
 A: *You said you liked politics.*
 B: *No, I said I didn't like politics.*