

REPORTED SPEECH: STATEMENTS

B1 | Teens / Adults | Grammar Question Writing | 20-30 minutes

Complete questions, write detailed answers and form questions of your own.

EXAMPLE

Question: What **did** your friend **say** about the trip?

Answer: She **said she was** excited and **told me she had** packed already.

Remember: Say + clause. Tell + person + clause. Change pronouns and tense when the reporting context requires it.

A. COMPLETE AND ANSWER

Complete the questions using the grammar cues. Write full answers with a relevant detail.

1. What _____ a friend _____ they were doing recently? (say; past)

Answer: _____

2. What _____ someone _____ you about their plans? (tell; past)

Answer: _____

3. What _____ your teacher _____ about the next lesson? (say; past)

Answer: _____

4. What _____ a neighbour _____ you about your area? (tell; past)

Answer: _____

B. WRITE THE QUESTIONS

Put the words in order. Write each question. Start with a capital letter and add ?.

1. the / your / say / about / what / did / friend / film

2. tell / closed / the / was / shop / anyone / you / did

3. cancelled / was / told / event / who / you / that / the

Try it: Ask your partner the questions in B. Ask one follow-up of your own.

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Answer key | Keep this page separate during student practice.

A. COMPLETE AND ANSWER

Target forms and model answers are shown below. Personal answers will vary.

1. did / say - What did a friend say they were doing recently?

Sample answer: He said he was learning to drive because he needed a car for work.

2. did / tell - What did someone tell you about their plans?

Sample answer: My sister told me she would visit on Saturday.

3. did / say - What did your teacher say about the next lesson?

Sample answer: She said we would practise writing questions in the next lesson.

4. did / tell - What did a neighbour tell you about your area?

Sample answer: A neighbour told me that a new cafe was opening near the station.

B. WRITE THE QUESTIONS

1. What did your friend say about the film?

2. Did anyone tell you the shop was closed?

3. Who told you that the event was cancelled?

TEACHER NOTES

Questions set up reported statements in answers. Use invented messages if needed; backshift is not always required.

Accept correct full forms and contractions. Check that answers match the question.

Encourage one relevant detail; check word order, capitals and question marks in B.