

Reported speech – statements and questions

1 Rewrite the sentences in reported speech using the words given.

- 'I prefer fantasy to science fiction,' he said.
He said he
- 'You have to look up the new words in the dictionary,' the teacher said.
The teacher said we
- 'I won't tell you how the story ends,' he said.
He said he
- 'She's writing a trilogy on Rome,' they said.
They said she
- 'I have never written children's fiction,' she said.
She said she

2 Complete the sentences with *said* or *told*.

- She she didn't expect her novels to be successful.
- Mrs Williams her students to get a world atlas by the end of next week.
- He that the charity campaign had raised two million pounds.
- Who you that you would never write a novel?
- When I that I had never read Shakespeare, all my classmates started to laugh.

3 Circle the correct alternative.

- They asked if we have filled in/had filled in all the forms.
- The interviewer wanted to know where the author was born/was the author born.
- Tony asked me why/if I hadn't enjoyed the latest Robert Galbraith novel.
- He said he had read the book two months before/ago.
- Mum asked why didn't I like/I didn't like reading.
- I asked the librarian why/if I could flick through the new books.
- He said he had bought the book in the morning and finished it that night/tonight.

4 Cross out the extra word in each sentence.

- The bookseller told to me that the book I was looking for was no longer for sale.
- The tourists wanted to know how much did the city map cost.
- Lots of fans asked to the famous author to sign their copies.
- Our teacher once said us that he used to write poetry.
- They wanted to know if whether we ever read fantasy books.

5 Choose the best answer (A, B or C) to complete the text.

Like a lot of places in Europe, more and more public libraries in the UK are closing. In a recent interview, the Scottish author Ali Smith said that this (1) a problem because libraries are an important tradition for the UK. She also said that this (2) an impact on the next generation of writers.

In 2015, Smith published a collection of short stories called *Public Libraries and Other Stories*. She said that, a few years (3), she (4) everybody she knew to (5) her about their experience of public libraries. When she asked them what (6) to them, most people said that libraries (7) them into better people.

Smith (8) the interviewer that while she had been writing the stories, a thousand public libraries (9) She also asked other writers (10) they thought about the libraries closing, and they also said it was serious problem.

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| 1 A is | B had been | C was |
| 2 A would have | B will has | C had |
| 3 A ago | B before | C previous |
| 4 A had asked | B has asked | C asked |
| 5 A say | B tell | C told |
| 6 A had they meant | B they had meant | C had meant |
| 7 A had made | B made | C have made |
| 8 A said | B asked | C told |
| 9 A have closed | B closed | C had closed |
| 10 A what | B whether | C had |