

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

Extra Grammar Exercises

(Unit 5, page 55)

LESSON 2 Indirect speech: Say and tell—tense changes

1 Circle the correct verb.

1. We (told / said) our classmates to be on time for the meeting.
2. No one (said / told) us what had happened.
3. When I arrived at the school, they (said / told) me the air conditioning wasn't working.
4. The newspaper article (said / told) there was a flu epidemic in several southern states of the U.S.
5. My friend from Mexico called and (said / told) us there had been a landslide in the town next to hers.
6. It (says / tells) that a lot of trees fell down in the hurricane.
7. They (said / told) the class that a typhoon and a hurricane are the same kind of storm.

2 Correct the errors in the statements.

1. The newspaper told that there was a terrible storm.
The newspaper said (that) there had been a terrible storm. The newspaper told us (that) there had been a terrible storm.
2. My friend Anna said me that she was sick today.

3. I told I will go there next week.

4. She said him the earthquake had hit early in the day.

5. The weather report told the weather would be better tomorrow.

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3 Write the original direct quote. Use quotation marks.

1. They said a lot of people had died in the flood.

"A lot of people died in the flood."

2. My friends told me the tornado had hit before they came home.
-
- _____

3. Karen said the 2003 drought had been one of the worst droughts in history.
-
- _____

4. The National News said thousands had died of hunger in the famine.
-
- _____

4 Change each statement from direct speech to indirect speech. Change the verb tense.

1. I said, "It hasn't stopped raining yet."

I said that it hadn't stopped raining yet.

2. My friends in Panama told me, "The weather last week was terrible."
-
- _____

3. Susan said, "I'll bring food to your house for dinner."
-
- _____

4. Laura's children told her, "We can't take the school bus this morning."
-
- _____

5. He said, "I was here all last night."
-
- _____

6. People said, "This was the worst blizzard in 100 years."
-
- _____

7. The owner of the store told me, "The rug comes from Pakistan."
-
- _____

8. Our history professor, Mr. Green, called and said, "The hurricane damaged my parents' house, and I can't come to class today."
-
- _____

9. After the tornado warning, most people said, "We stayed in our basements for more than an hour."
-
- _____