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REPORTED QUESTIONS

A question in reported speech is no longer a question. Therefore:

- there is no auxiliary that changes order with the subject
- the auxiliaries "do/does/did" are not used
- there is no question mark (?)

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REPORTED QUESTIONS

In direct speech there are two types of questions:

- a) Starting with an auxiliary:

Bill: Sarah, **are** you on a diet?

Betty: **Did** he sing that song?

Paul: **Have** you studied Italian?

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REPORTED QUESTIONS

- b) Starting with an interrogative pronoun:

Greg: **What** are you doing?

Frank: **Where** has he gone?

Peter: **How** will we go there?

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REPORTED QUESTIONS

To report these questions we use "to ask" and:

- a) If the question starts with an auxiliary, in reported speech we need "if" (or "whether"):

Bill asked **if** Sarah was on a diet.

Betty asked **if** he had sung that song.

Paul asked me **if** I had studied Italian.

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REPORTED QUESTIONS

- b) If the question starts with an interrogative pronoun, it is also used in reported speech.

Greg asked me **what** I was doing.

Frank asked **where** he had gone.

Peter asked **how** they would get there.

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REPORTED QUESTIONS

ask = want to know

Greg **wanted to know** what I was doing.

Frank **wanted to know** where he had gone.

Peter **wanted to know** how they would get there.

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REPORTED COMMANDS

ask / tell + somebody + to + infinitive

James: Go out!

James **asked me to go out**.

John: Open the door!

John **told me to open** the door.

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REPORTED COMMANDS

Negative commands.

not + to + infinitive

Barbara: Don't get up late!

Barbara told us **not to get up** late.

Linda: Don't go there by train.

Linda asked me **not to go** there by train.

Elegir la respuesta correcta. Para ello hemos de transformar las oraciones sugeridas a estilo indirecto.

1 Barbara: Susan, when did you arrive?

- a. Barbara asked Susan when had she arrived.
- b. Barbara asked Susan when did she arrived.
- c. Barbara asked Susan when she had arrived.

2 Thomas: Will it rain tomorrow?

- a. Thomas asked if it would rain tomorrow.
- b. Thomas asked if would it rain tomorrow.
- c. Thomas asked if it would rain the following day.

3 Frank: Laura, do you want to dance?

- a. Frank asked Laura if she wants to dance.
- b. Frank asked Laura whether she wanted to dance.
- c. Frank asked Laura if he wanted to dance.

4 John: Do what you want!

- a. John told me do what I want.
- b. John told me do what I wanted.
- c. John told me to do what I wanted.

5 Anne: What time is it now?

- a. Anne asked what time was it then.
- b. Anne asked what time it was then.
- c. Anne asked what time it was now.

6 Brenda: Are they still working in Chicago?

- a. Brenda asked whether they were still working in Chicago.
- b. Brenda asked if they still were working in Chicago.
- c. Brenda asked if they were working in Chicago yet.



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EJERCICIOS

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EJERCICIOS



7 Steward: Don't buy that magazine because I've already bought it.

- Steward asked me not to buy that magazine because he'd already bought it.
- Steward asked me not to buy that magazine because he'd already bought it.
- Steward asked us not to buy that magazine because he's already bought it.

8 Helen: Have you seen Almodóvar's latest movie?

- Helen asked if I have seen Almodóvar's latest movie.
- Helen asked if I saw Almodóvar's latest movie.
- Helen asked if I had seen Almodóvar's latest movie.

9 David: How long had your sister spent there?

- David asked me how long had my sister spent there.
- David asked me how long your sister had spent there.
- David asked me how long my sister had spent there.

10 Rod: Don't go to bed late!

- Rod told me not to go to bed late.
- Rod told me don't go to bed late.
- Rod told us not to go to bed late.



Soluciones: 1.- (c) Barbara asked Susan when she had arrived. 2.- (c) Thomas asked if it would rain the following day. 3.- (b) Frank asked Laura whether she wanted to dance. 4.- (c) John told me to do what I wanted. 5.- (b) Anne asked what time it was then. 6.- (a) Brenda asked whether they were still working in Chicago. 7.- (a) Steward asked me not to buy that magazine because he'd already bought it. 8.- (c) Helen asked if I had seen Almodóvar's latest movie. 9.- (c) David asked me how long my sister had spent there. 10.- (c) Rod told us not to go to bed late.