

## INDIRECT SPEECH

Things you may have to change when you go from direct speech to indirect:

- 1) **verb tense** if the “reporting verb” was in the **past tense**
  - a. future - would
  - b. present – past simple
  - c. any past tense – past perfect
- 2) **pronouns**
- 3) **time expressions**
  - a. use the following day / the previous day
- 4) in addition, for **indirect questions**, you have to worry about **word order**

### Word order for indirect speech and indirect questions:

Bob played the main role.

S        V        O

Bob    is        the best.

The body is    2 m long.

**Questions:** Did Bob play the main role?  
Is Bob the best?  
How long is the body?

### Indirect Questions:

I don't know if Bob played the main role.

I don't know if Bob is the best.

I don't know how long the body is.

After the reporting verb, you have 3 possible tenses for the next verb:

### 1) WOULD + INFINITIVE:

*“I will be there.”*

*“I am going to be there.”*

She said that she **WOULD** (should/could) be there.

### 2) PAST SIMPLE (PAST CONTINUOUS):

*“It is snowing now.”*

*“Bob hates me!”*

She said that it **WAS** snowing then.  
Bob **HATED** her.

### 3) PŘEDMINULÝ ČAS = had + 3. tvar

*“When I was young, I was a star.”*

She said that she **HAD BEEN** a star.  
She said that she **HADN'T EATEN** a spider.