

Narration Exercises

Exercise 1

John said, "I am very busy now."

* John said that he was very busy then.

He said, "The horse has been fed."

* He said that the horse had been fed.

I know her name and address', said John

* John said that he knew her name and address.

'German is easy to learn', she said.

* She said that German was easy to learn.

He said, 'I am writing letters.'

* He said that he was writing letters.

'It is too late to go out,' Alice said.

* Alice said that it was too late to go out.

He said to me, 'I don't believe you!'

* He told me that he did not believe me.

He says, 'I am glad to be here this evening'.

* He says that he is glad to be there that evening
(Ps: If reporting and reported both are in present, we'll still

He said to me, 'What are you doing?' make the relevant changes eg. here → there?

* He asked me what I was doing.

'Where is the post office?' asked the stranger.

* The stranger asked where was the post office.

He said, 'Will you listen to me?'
if I

* He said (that) would listen to him.

EXERCISE NO. 2

Boys said, "It has been raining since morning. We cannot play today."

* Boys said that it had been raining since morning so they would not play that day.

She said to him, "I am leaving now and shall return after two hours."

* She informed him that she was leaving then and would return after two hours.

The girl has said to me, "My father went to the market and brought toys for me."

* The girl has told me that her father went to the market and brought toys for her

Her husband said to her, "I shall not go to the office today as I am not feeling well."

* Her husband told her that he would not go to the office that day as he was not feeling well.

My father has said to me, "I fear that you have caught cold again."

* My father has told me, he fears that I have caught cold again
(It is ok to omit 'that' here to reduce redundancy).

His brother said to me, "I am not going to attend the meeting today."

* His brother told me that he was not going to attend the meeting that day.

The inspector has said to the people, "We have caught the thief and he will be brought to book soon."

* The inspector informed the people that they had caught the thief and he would be brought to book soon.

The lady said to her husband, "whether you agree with me or not I am not going to change my decision."

* The lady informed her husband (that) whether he agreed with her or not she was not going to change her decision.

The landlord has said to the young man, "if you do not pay your rent by evening today you will have to leave the house immediately".

The landlord has warned the young man that if he does not pay his rent by evening that day he will have to leave the house immediately.

His wife said to him, "Do you know that my servant stole our money?"

asked

* His wife (told) him if he knew that her servant stole their money.

Her friend said to her, "Can you spare your book for me for a week?"

* Her friend asked her if she could spare her book for her for a week.

She said to him, "Can I do anything for you? Will you mind my extending help to you?"

* She asked him if she could do anything for him and if he would mind her extending help to her.

His friend has said to him, "Did I not warn you against this beforehand?"

* His friend has asked him if he did not warn him against that beforehand.

The captain said to the players, "Will you put your heart and soul in playing the game so that we may win the match?"

* The captain asked the players whether they would put their heart and soul in playing the game so that they might win the match.

The old man said to the child, "Why did you break this window pane?"

* The old man asked the child that why had he broken the window pane.

Rewrite the following dialogue in a paragraph form.

Helen asked Mr. West what had happened to John. Mr. West replied that he had left the company. Helen inquired what had been the reason behind doing that. Mr. West informed him that he had not fulfilled his demand for a pay rise. While ^{inquiring} ~~interrogating~~ further Helen asked that why he had not given him a rise to which Mr. West replied that because of his laziness. On asking whether he has found another job Mr. West told Helen that he was working in a film company. Helen asked Mr. West how much salary

did he get. He informed that he ~~to~~ thought he earned quite alot. At last Helen asked if he liked the new job to which Mr West replied that he didn't know about that.

(b) Rewrite the following dialogue, written in indirect speech, in a paragraph form.

(5)

Helen: Mr West, what's happened to John?

Mr West: He's left the company

Helen: Why has he done that?

Mr West: He asked me for a rise but I didn't give it to him.

Helen: Why didn't you give him a rise?

Mr West: Because he was lazy.

Helen: Has he found another job?

Mr West: Yes, he is working in a film company.

Helen: What is his salary like?

Mr West: I think he earns quite a lot.

Helen: Does he like the new job?

Mr West: I don't know.