

Reported speech – statements and questions

1 Rewrite the sentences in reported speech.

- 'All my stories are set here, in my home town.' the author said.
.....
- 'You have to look up the new words in this dictionary.' the teacher said.
.....
- 'I'll tell you how the story ends if you don't finish the book by tonight.' he said.
.....
- 'She's presenting her Rome trilogy today.' they said.
.....
- 'I haven't written children's fiction before, but I may start a book next year.' she said.
.....

2 Find and correct the mistakes in the sentences. There are two mistakes in each sentence.

- The bookseller said me that the book I was looking for were no longer for sale.
.....
- The tourists asked to their guide how much did the city map cost.
.....
- Lots of fans said the famous author to sign our copies.
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- My grandfather once told that when he was younger, he can fly a helicopter.
.....
- They wanted to know if whether we ever read e-books in your free time.
.....

3 Rewrite the questions in reported speech.

- 'Have you filled in all the forms?' the secretary asked me.
.....
- 'Where were you born?' the interviewer wanted to know.
.....
- 'Why didn't you enjoy the last Harry Potter novel?' Tony asked James.
.....
- 'Why don't you like reading?' Mum asked my sister.
.....
- 'Can I flick through the new books?' I asked the librarian.
.....

4 Complete the text with the correct form of the verbs in the box.

ask • be • copy • x2 say • start • take • x2 tell

I teach creative writing and the first thing I always (a) to my students is that reading extensively (b) the best way to become a better writer. Once, a student (c) he was afraid that if he read too many novels by one writer, he (d) writing like him. I (e) him that everyone (f) the writers they like, and that it's a good idea to study the things we like about a writer. I (g) students to start with the books they like, and then move on to more difficult books. A student once (h) how long it (i) her to become a writer. I said, 'I'm not sure I know!'

5 Choose the best answer (A, B, C or D) 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 closing libraries, and they also said it was serious problem.

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|--------------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1 A is | B had been | C was | D has been |
| 2 A would have | B will has | C had | D has had |
| 3 A ago | B following | C previous | D before |
| 4 A had asked | B has asked | C asked | D asks |
| 5 A say | B tell | C told | D said |
| 6 A had they meant | B they had meant | C had meant | D did they mean |
| 7 A had made | B made | C have made | D are making |
| 8 A said | B asked | C answered | D told |
| 9 A have closed | B closed | C had closed | D are closing |
| 10 A whether | B if | C had | D what |