

LESSON 2 GOAL Tell someone about the news

VOCABULARY Severe weather and other natural disasters

A Read and listen. Then listen again and repeat.



a tornado a hurricane / a typhoon a flood a landslide a drought

B LISTEN TO INFER Listen to the news. Write the kind of event the report describes.

1 2 3 4
 C LISTEN TO CONFIRM INFORMATION Listen again. After each report, say if the statement is true or false. Explain your answers.
 1 She said it hadn't rained in a month. 3 She said the storm had done a lot of damage.
 2 He said it hadn't rained for a week. 4 He said the storm wouldn't do a lot of damage.

GRAMMAR Indirect speech: Say and tell—tense changes

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Use tell when you mention the listener. Use say when you don't.

Maggie **told** her parents to stay home. (listeners mentioned)
 Maggie **said** to stay home. (listeners not mentioned)

When say and tell are in the past tense, the verbs in the indirect speech statement often change. Present becomes past. Past becomes past perfect. Will becomes would. Can becomes could.

They said, "The weather **is** awful." → They said (that) the weather **was** awful.
 Dan said, "We **all** **had** the flu." → Dan said (that) they **all** **had** had the flu.
 They said, "There **will** be snow tonight." → They said there **would** be snow tonight.
 My husband said, "You **can** come with me." → My husband said I **could** come with him.

A GRAMMAR PRACTICE Circle the correct verbs for indirect speech.



My Great-Grandmother Meets Hurricane Cleo

Hurricane Cleo struck the United States in August, 1964. My great-grandmother, Ana, was traveling in Miami when the hurricane struck. She **is** **said** / **told** me that she still remembers how scared everyone was. She **is** **said** / **told** me that the hotel **is** **has** **called** / **had** **called** her room one morning and **is** **said** / **told** her that a big storm **is** **is** / **was** on the way. They **is** **said** / **told** that all hotel guests **is** **have** **to** / **had** **to** stay in the hotel until the weather service **is** **tell** / **said** that **is** **is** / **was** safe to leave. She stayed in her room, and she didn't know what happened until the storm was over. When she turned on the TV, the reports **is** **said** / **told** that a lot of people **is** **have** **been** / **had** **been** injured and that all the roads **is** **are** / **were** flooded. She always **is** **says** / **said** that she still **is** **feels** / **felt** lucky to have survived Hurricane Cleo.

B GRAMMAR PRACTICE Change each statement from direct speech to indirect speech, changing the verb tense in the indirect speech statement.

- 1 The TV reporter said, "The landslide is one of the worst in history."
 1. The TV reporter said the landslide was one of the worst in history.
- 2 He also said, "It caused the destruction of half the houses in the town."
- 3 My sister called and said, "There is no electricity because of the hurricane."
- 4 The newspaper said, "There will be a typhoon in the next thirty-six hours."
- 5 The paper said, "The drought of 1999 was the worst natural disaster of the twentieth century."
- 6 After the great snowstorm in 1888, a New York newspaper reported, "The blizzard of '88 caused more damage than any previous storm."

CONVERSATION MODEL

A Read and listen to a conversation about the news.

A: What's going on in the news today?
 B: Well, the Times says there was a terrible storm in the South.
 A: Really?
 B: Yes. It says lots of houses were destroyed.
 A: What a shame!
 B: But there haven't been any deaths.
 A: Thank goodness for that!

Reactions to news
 @ What a shame!
 @ Think goodness for that!

B RHYTHM AND INTONATION Listen again and repeat. Then practice the Conversation Model with a partner.



HOW YOU CAN Tell someone about the news

A NOTEPADDING Read each headline. Then, on a separate sheet of paper, write what it said. Use indirect speech.

The Daily Post Online says an earthquake killed 20,000 in Iran.

B CONVERSATION ACTIVATOR Tell your partner what the news is, using the headlines. Then change roles and headlines.

A: What's going on in the news today?
 B: Well, says
 A: Really?
 B: Yes. It says
 A:
 DONT STOP!
 • Discuss other headlines
 • Express your reactions to the news

RECYCLE THIS LANGUAGE.

What a shame!
 Thank goodness for that!
 Oh, no!
 What a disaster!
 That's [enormous / gigantic / huge / horrendous]!

C CHANGE PARTNERS Practice the conversation again, using a different headline.

