



2nd semester

Topic 37

Reported questions

- First of all
- What do you know about Reported speech?
- What do you know about reported questions?
- What is the difference between direct questions and reported ones?



Reported Questions

direct question	reported question
She said: "Are you cold?"	She asked me if I was cold.
He said: "Where's my pen?"	He asked where his pen was

- ▶ We usually introduce reported questions with the verb "ask":
- ▶ He asked (me) if/whether... (YES/NO questions)
- ▶ He asked (me) why/when/where/what/how... (question-word questions)

Reported YES/NO questions

- ▶ We introduce reported YES/NO questions with ask + if:

direct question	She said,	"Do you like coffee?"
reported question	She asked	if I liked coffee.

- ▶ Note that in the above example the reported question has no auxiliary "do". But there is pronoun change and backshift.
- ▶ Note that we sometimes use "whether" instead of "if". The meaning is the same. "Whether" is a little more formal and more usual in writing:
- ▶ They asked us if we wanted lunch.
- ▶ They asked us whether we wanted lunch.

Reported question-word questions

- ▶ We introduce reported question-word questions with ask + question word:

direct question	He said,	"Where	do you live?"
reported question	He asked me	where	I lived.

- ▶ Note that in the above example the reported question has no auxiliary "do". But there is pronoun change and backshift.