

**Reported Speech**

**A. Rewrite these sentences into the indirect speech, starting them as suggested below.**

1. "I spend about 45 minutes on a typical consultation with a patient."  
Dr Weir confirms \_\_\_\_\_
2. "Tell me when it's a quarter past eight!"  
The French teacher asked his students \_\_\_\_\_
3. "My friends went away last weekend."  
Francis told his mother \_\_\_\_\_
4. "Why does he sing so loudly?"  
Tricia wanted to know \_\_\_\_\_
5. "I've always thought your brother was married. I must have confused him with someone else."  
Richard told Helen \_\_\_\_\_
6. "Take a look at yourself in the mirror!"  
Peggy urged her brother \_\_\_\_\_
7. "Did your father always wear brown suits?"  
She asked me \_\_\_\_\_
8. "Go to bed and don't get up till you're called!"  
My father ordered me \_\_\_\_\_
9. "I'm living in another house now. Next month I'll probably move to a bigger one."  
Peggy stated \_\_\_\_\_
10. "If you did your best, you would do it!"  
My mother told me \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Jim Barnes and Bill Nokes have been interviewed by the police in connection with a robbery last week. Study the verb tenses in these extracts from the police reports. Underline the wrong tenses and correct them below.**

*When I mentioned to Nokes that he had been seen in a local shop last Monday, he protested that he is at home all day. He swears that he didn't own a blue Ford. He claimed that he goes to the paint factory two weeks ago to look for work. Nokes alleges that he is a good friend of Jim Barnes. He insisted that he doesn't telephone Barnes last Monday morning. When I pointed out to Nokes that a large quantity of paint had been found in his house, he replied that he is storing it for a friend.*

## SOLUTIONS

### A.

1. Dr Weir confirms that he spends about 45 minutes on a typical consultation with a patient.
2. The French teacher asked his students to tell him when it was a quarter to eight.
3. Francis told his mother that his friends had gone away the previous weekend.
4. Tricia wanted to know why he sang so loudly.
5. Richard told Helen that he had always thought her brother was married but he must have confused him with someone else.
6. Peggy urged her brother to take a look at himself in the mirror.
7. She asked me if my father had always worn brown suits.
8. My father ordered me to go to bed and not to get up till I was called.
9. Peggy stated that she was living in another house then, but the following month she would probably move to a bigger one.
10. My mother told me that if I had done my best, I would have done it.

### B.

*When I mentioned to Nokes that he **(was seen)** had been seen in a local shop last Monday, he protested that he **was (had been)** at home all day. He swears that he **doesn't own** a blue Ford. He claimed that he **went (had gone)** to the paint factory two weeks ago to look for work. Nokes alleges that he is a good friend of Jim Barnes. He insisted that he **didn't telephone (hadn't telephoned)** Barnes last Monday morning. When I pointed out to Nokes that a large quantity of paint **(was found)** had been found in his house, he replied that he **was storing (had been storing)** it for a friend.*