

# REPORTED SPEECH

## Context Listening

**1** You are going to hear part of a radio programme. Rachel is a radio reporter in a studio in London. She is talking to a man called James Baker who is taking part in a round-the-world yacht race. What do you think she is asking him? .....



**2** Listen and check if you were right.

**3** Later, Rachel tells a colleague about the conversation. Read what Rachel says, then listen again and fill in the gaps with James's actual words.

- Rachel: James told me he was about 100 kilometres off the coast of Australia.  
James: 'I'm about 100 kilometres off the coast of Australia.'
- Rachel: He said he hadn't seen another boat for a few days.  
James: 'I ..... another boat for a few days.'
- Rachel: He said he thought he might win.  
James: 'I ..... win.'
- Rachel: He said there had been a terrible storm.  
James: 'There ..... a terrible storm.'
- Rachel: He said he hadn't slept for three days.  
James: 'I ..... for three days.'
- Rachel: He told me the sea was calm, the sun was shining.  
James: 'The sea ..... calm, the sun .....
- Rachel: He said that he could sometimes see sharks and dolphins swimming.  
James: 'I ..... sometimes see sharks and dolphins swimming.'
- Rachel: He said he would spend two hours in a hot bath.  
James: 'I ..... two hours in a hot bath.'
- Rachel: He said he had to get his hair cut.  
James: 'I ..... hair cut.'

**4** Listen again and complete the questions Rachel asked.

- Rachel: I asked him where he was.  
'Where .....
  - Rachel: I asked him if he thought he was going to win.  
'Do you ..... to win?'
  - Rachel: I asked him what the weather was like.  
'What ..... like?'
  - Rachel: I asked him if he could see dolphins there.  
'..... dolphins there?'
- 5** Can you see any pattern to the changes to the tenses in Exercises 3 and 4?

## Grammar exercises

**1** You talk on the phone to a friend, Luke. This is what he says.

- 'I've given up my job.'
- 'I can easily find another one.'
- 'I'm going to travel round Africa.'
- 'I lived there as a child.'
- 'I might get a part-time job there.'
- 'I'm packing my bag.'
- 'I'm really excited.'
- 'I'll be away for a year.'
- 'I may stay longer.'
- 'You could come too.'



After Luke has left, you tell another friend what he said.

**2** Match the beginnings and endings of these sentences.

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|--------------------------|--|
| 1 She told .....         | a I could help my neighbour mend his car.                |
| 2 My sister asked .....  | b whether my sister could give me a lift.                |
| 3 I said .....           | c me she couldn't afford to come to the theatre.         |
| 4 My parents said .....  | d to me, 'You shouldn't watch so much TV.'               |
| 5 I wanted to know ..... | e if I wanted to go on holiday with her.                 |
| 6 I told .....           | f the dentist that Thursday was the only day I was free. |