EXPRESS CHECK

Read Jim's words. Check the sentence that correctly reports what he said.

JIM: "I may move soon."

☐ Jim said that I may move soon.   ☐ Jim said that he might move soon.

Grammar Explanations

Examples

1. As you learned in Unit 73, when the **reporting verb** is in the **simple past tense**, in the indirect speech statement the <u>verb tense often changes</u>.

Modals often change in indirect speech too.

DIRECT SPEECH		INDIRECT SPEECH
will	→	*would*
can	→	*could*
may	→	*might*
must	→	*had to*

DIRECT SPEECH	INDIRECT SPEECH
She said, "It**'s** windy."	She said it ***was*** windy.

DIRECT SPEECH	INDIRECT SPEECH
I said, "The winds **will be** strong."	I said the winds ***would be*** strong.
They told us, "You **can stay** with us."	They told us we ***could stay*** with them.
He said, "The storm **may last** all night."	He said that the storm ***might last*** all night.
She told us, "You **must leave**."	She told us we ***had to leave***.

2. Some verbs do not change in indirect speech.

a. Do not change ***should***, ***could***, ***might***, and ***ought to*** in indirect speech.

b. Do not change the **past perfect** in indirect speech.

c. Do not change verbs in **present and past unreal conditional** sentences in indirect speech.

d. Do not change **past modals** in indirect speech.

DIRECT SPEECH	INDIRECT SPEECH
"You **should listen** to the weather report," he told us.	He told us that we ***should listen*** to the weather report.
"I **had** just **moved** here a week before," she said.	She said she ***had*** just ***moved*** there a week before.
"If I **knew**, I **would tell** you."	Jim said if he ***knew***, he ***would tell*** me.
"If I **had known**, I **would have told** you," said Jim.	He said if he ***had known***, he ***would have told*** me.
"I **should have left**."	He said that he ***should have left***.

3. REMEMBER! <u>Change</u> pronouns, time phrases, ***here***, and ***this*** in indirect speech to <u>keep the speaker's original meaning</u>.

- "I just got **here yesterday**."
- Sam told me *he* had just gotten ***there the day before***.