

Indirect Speech Found in You've Reached Sam Novel by Dustin Thao

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Abstract. Relating what someone has said is not only done by using the speaker's exact words which is called direct speech. But it can also be done by using different words providing that they do not change the meaning which is called indirect speech. Indirect speech is not only found in spoken language but it is found in written language as well. For example in novels. For that reason this study focuses on indirect speech found in a novel. The novel that is used as a data source is entitled *You've Reached Sam*. This novel is chosen because there is a great number of indirect speech found in it. The analysis on this research generally focuses on the types of indirect speech and changes occurring in the process of relating what someone says or has said. The theory applied in this research is mainly taken from the theory about indirect speech by Thomson and Martinet (1986) in their book entitled "A Practical English Grammar." Some explanations are obtained from other sources as well. It is intended to get a better view on understanding the topic. The data of this paper are taken from the novel *You've Reached Sam* and this are collected by reading the entire of the novel, underlining the sentences which have relationship with the topic namely indirect speech, then they are analyzed descriptively based on the main theory. Based on the results of the analysis, there are three types of indirect speech found. They are indirect statement, indirect question, and indirect directive. Some changes occur in indirect speech, they are verb form, place, personal pronoun, possessive adjective, and modal auxiliaries.

Keywords: indirect speech; grammar; novel



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1. Introduction

In everyday life we are often in situations in which we have to convey a message, tell someone about something, or relate what someone has said. What someone has said can be reported in two ways, namely directly and indirectly. According to Betty and Stacy (2009: 258) “direct speech (or quoted speech) refers to reproducing words exactly as they were originally spoken. Quotation marks (“...” are used”. It means that in direct speech we repeat what the speaker’s exact words. In reported speech, (Parmar, 2014) said that “Reported speech gives the remarks of the speaker as reported by someone else”. Although both direct and indirect speech can be used to report what someone says, people will have their own reasons to use either of them. People tend to use direct speech because they can insert the intonation used by the speakers. This will be more convincing and support the accuracy of the messages in the utterances. On the other hand, indirect speech are chosen because the reporter can use their own words providing that they do not change the meaning. Moreover the speaker’s utterances are too long and hard to understand, it is obvious that the indirect speech will be the preferable choice.

When conveying messages or words to other people, mistakes can occur. The mistakes can be the omission of words, adding unimportant words, misinformation and disordering. These errors include changes in pronouns, adverbs of time, adverbs of places and possessive adjectives. To reduce and if possible to avoid such mistakes, we need to have good understanding when quoting and conveying other people's messages or speech. Having good knowledge in conveying messages or other people's speech is very important. One of the key components of effective communication is proper grammar. The transformation of direct speech into indirect speech in English will be affected by the tenses used in the direct speech.

Several studies on indirect speech have been studied by several researchers. (Krasniqi, 2021), this research focuses on the presentation of speech in written (online) news, specifically investigating speech reported in English-language online newspaper articles. In this research it is written that news articles are mostly political reports involving various kinds of original communicators, such as politicians and certain speakers. (Mustajib, 2021), this research focuses on knowing students' ability to understand reported speech during online classes. In data collection, quantitative descriptive was used to determine students' ability to change the report's speech and this research used a written test as a research instrument. (Xiao, 2023), this research analyses the language used by Chinese e-commerce anchors in selling goods. News anchors not only express their true intentions directly but also often use some indirect speech so that listeners need to infer and understand the meaning behind what is said. These strategies are specifically realized in the form of direct speech which is assertive, directive, commissure and expressive, as well as presuppositions, brackets and hedging in indirect speech.

Based on the previous research on indirect speech, novel can also be a data source where analysis about indirect speech can be done. Indirect speech can be found both in oral and written language. In written, indirect speech can be found in a text book, literary works and all type of discourses. The use of indirect speech or reported speech in writing, both fiction and non-fiction, can help make the pace of action run smoothly, in contrast to direct speech which tends to slow down the pace of action and it is not monotonous just by using direct sentences or providing variations in the writing. Variations in this case are like the use of synonyms, words that have higher intensity and frequency. If we do not want other people to know the speakers exact words, indirect speech is the right choice. Other supporting things such as emotions, facial expression, or the intonation of the speaker's voice can also be hidden. The data used in this paper was taken from the novel *You've Reached Sam*. This novel was written by Dustin Thao, published by St. Martin's Publishing Group on November 9, 2023.

2. Method

The method which is used in this research is a qualitative method in terms of qualitative descriptive. The qualitative method is a method that focuses on in-depth observation. Therefore, the use of qualitative methods in research can produce a more comprehensive study of a phenomenon. The data source is taken from the novel entitled *You've Reached Sam* by Dustin Thao (add 2021). This novel is chosen as a data source because there is a lot of indirect speech in it. There were three steps in collecting data. The first one was reading the data source, collecting data, and data analyzing. Reading the entire contents of the novel is the first steps in collecting data. By reading the novel thoroughly will make it easier to understand indirect speech in contexts. Novels often contain a wide range of language usage, including both direct and indirect speech. Second, after reading the novel and finding the indirect speech sentences, the indirect speech which is found noted in a special small book. This is done in order to be more easily finding the indirect speech which has been chosen from the data source. Third, all types and changes which occur in indirect speech which were found in data source was presented by focusing on examples. Those examples are explained based on the main theory and several supporting theories.

3. Result and Discussion

Thomson and Martinet (1986) covers various types of indirect speech, including statements, questions, commands, and exclamations. These different types are converted from direct speech to indirect speech following specific rules related to changes in verb forms, pronouns, and word order. In the data source only three types of indirect speech are found. They are indirect statements, indirect questions, and indirect directive.

The types of indirect speech found in You've Reached Sam Novel by Dustin Thao

Indirect statement

Sam mentioned he might be here tonight (Thao, 2021: iv)

They say moving on becomes easier with time (Thao, 2021: 1)

Indirect Questions

Some people asked where you were (Thao, 2021: 9)

I'm wondering if any of it matters (Thao, 2021: 52)

Indirect Directive

Mr. Lee asks me to wait here while he disappears inside the little office in the corner (Thao, 2021: 58)

Sam told me I shouldn't tell anyone about our calls (Thao, 2021: 62)

The changes in indirect speech

The changes that occur in indirect speech found in the data source includes, the changes of verb form, pronoun, place, and modal auxiliaries. From the *You've Reached Sam* novel by Dustin Thao verb changes are only found in indirect statements, indirect questions, and indirect command.

The changes of verb form in indirect statement

I told them you weren't feeling well (Thao, 2021: 9)

Mom said you'd make an offer (Thao, 2021: 35)

Example a) the indirect speech is in the past continuous tense, that means the direct speech is in the present continuous tense. The form of the verb be (were) in the reported clause is derived from the form of the verb to be are in the direct speech. Example 2) the verb changes to "would," which is the past tense form of "will." This change is due to the backshift of tense, where the future tense "will" in the direct speech is shifted to the past tense "would" in the indirect speech.

The changes of verb form in indirect questions

I asked Sam why they didn't like me (Thao, 2021: 26)

Sam asked me if I wanted to grab something to eat (Thao, 2021: 85)

Example a) the verb used in the reporting clause is in the simple past tense *asked* and the reported clause is in the simple past tense *did*. The verb *did* is from the verb *do*. Example b) the verb in the reporting clause is in the simple past tense *asked* and the verb in the reported clause is in the simple past tense *wanted*. The verb *Wanted* is from the verb *want*. This example shows a change of verb form from simple present into simple past tense.

Verb form changes in indirect commands

I told him he didn't have to go (Thao, 2021: 139)

Example a) the verb "don't" changes to "didn't" when reporting the statement indirectly. This tense change is common in indirect speech, particularly when reporting past events.

Adverb of place changes in indirect speech

Sam mentioned he might be here tonight (Thao, 2021: V)

I told him to stay there (Thao, 2021: 79)

Example a) adverb of place changes from *there* to *here*. Example b) shows a change of adverb of place from *here* in direct speech becomes *there* in indirect speech.

The pronoun changes in indirect speech

He asked me to meet him somewhere new for us to talk (Thao, 2021: 59)

Yuki asked me what I was writing about (Thao, 2021: 122)

Example a) the pronoun object *me* changes into *him*. Example b) pronoun object *you* in the original speaker's word changes into *me* in the reported clause. Example c) The pronoun subject *you* changes into *I*.

The Possessive adjective changes in indirect speech

Mr. Lee said he was impressed with our knowledge of book and chose us specifically for the genres we read most (Thao, 2021: 90)

Professor Guildford invites me to lunch with my mom in the next few weeks to talk about other creative opportunities (Thao, 2021: 96)

Example a) the possessive adjective "your" changes to "our". Example b) the possessive adjective changes from "your" to "my."

The modal in indirect speech

I promised Sam I wouldn't tell, because it might affect our connection, and I can't risk that

(Thao, 2021: 96)

Sam told me I shouldn't tell anyone about our calls because he doesn't know what might happen (Thao, 2021: 62)

Example a) the modal "can't" changes to "couldn't" to reflect the past tense of the reporting verb "promised." Example b) the modal "might," which is the past tense form of "may."

The main theory which is used in this study is entitled "A Practical English Grammar" proposed by Thomson and Martinet (1986). In indirect speech we give the exact meaning of a remark or a speech without necessarily using the speaker's exact words. Thomson and Martinet theory provides a set of rules and principles that govern the transformation of direct speech into indirect speech. This main theory offers clear and specific guidelines for transforming direct speech into indirect speech. These guidelines cover various aspects such as changes in verb form, pronouns, time, place, possessive adjective, and reporting verbs. By following these guidelines, learners can effectively convert direct speech into indirect speech.

Indirect statement

In *You've Reached Sam*, a novel by Dustin Thao, there are lots of indirect statements found. Most indirect speech which are found fall into this type. According to Thomson and Martinet, they explain the transformation from direct speech into indirect speech and provides examples with their explanation. The following are two examples of indirect statement found in data source which analyzed based on the explanation on indirect speech in the main theory.

Sam mentioned he might be here tonight (Thao, 2021: iv)

They say moving on becomes easier with time (Thao, 2021: 1)

Example 1) consists of a reporting clause and a reported clause. In indirect speech (also known as reported speech), the reporting clause is the part of the sentence that begins the reported speech and connects it to the speaker's original words. It usually contains a reporting verb (such as "said", "told", "asked", etc.) followed by reported clause. In this case the reporting clause is *Sam mentioned* and the reported clause *he might be here tonight*. In indirect speech (also known as reported speech), the reporting clause is the part of the sentence that begins the reported speech and connects it to the speaker's original words. It usually contains a reporting verb (such as "said", "was told", "asked", etc.) followed by the utterance being reported. This example of indirect speech comes from direct Speech: Sam said, "I may be there tonight."

Reporting Verb ("mentioned"):

In indirect speech, the reporting verb is often a verb of saying or thinking (e.g., said, mentioned, told, thought, etc.). In this case, "mentioned" is the reporting verb used to convey what Sam said. In indirect speech, there are no quotation marks around the reported speech. Instead, the reported speech is integrated into the overall sentence structure without any special punctuation. Based on this theory, the indirect speech "Sam mentioned he might be here tonight" is an example of indirect speech because it reports what Sam said without using his exact words, employing a reporting verb ("mentioned") and integrating the reported speech into the sentence without quotation marks. So, "Sam mentioned he might be here tonight" is considered as indirect speech, specifically an indirect statement, because it reports what Sam said without quoting him directly and incorporates his words into the speaker's sentence structure. In this indirect speech *he* refers to Sam. He said he may be here tonight because he wants to meet Julie. Julie is the person who reports this indirect speech. She reports this direct speech to her friend. Example 2) "They say moving on becomes easier with time" is an example of an indirect statement. This indirect speech consists of reporting clause and reported clause. The reporting clause *They say* and the reported clause *moving on becomes easier with time*. Indirect statements often involve reporting what someone else has said or expressed without directly quoting them. In this case, "They say" is a

phrase indicating that the speaker is reporting a commonly held belief or opinion expressed by others. It's indirect because the speaker is not directly attributing the statement to a specific person or quoting their exact words.

In this indirect statement, the belief or opinion that "moving on becomes easier with time" is being reported indirectly. Therefore, it is qualified as an indirect speech especially indirect statement. This sentence belongs to indirect statement the same as the indirect speech above, it is a form of subordinate clause which relates a thought or statement indirectly. A subordinate clause, also known as a dependent clause, is a group of words that has both a subject and a verb but cannot stand alone as a complete sentence. Instead, it relies on an independent clause (main clause) to form a complete thought. Subordinate clauses are often introduced by subordinating conjunctions or relative pronouns. In this indirect speech *They* refers to indefinite people who say that leading life is easier without our beloved person's belongings who has passed away moreover their belongings disturb our feelings.

Indirect Questions

In theory proposed by Thomson and Martinet (1986), the authors discuss indirect questions as a type of reported speech or indirect speech. Indirect questions are reported questions, where the original question is indirectly stated rather than quoted directly. Indirect Questions that found in the novel *You've Reached Sam* mostly use main verb wonder and ask. In indirect questions are present indirect questions as follows:

Some people asked where you were (Thao, 2021: 9)

I'm wondering if any of it matters (Thao, 2021: 52)

Example a). According to Thomson and Martinet, reporting verbs are used to introduce indirect questions. These reporting verbs can include verbs like "asked," "inquired," "wondered," etc. Indirect speech in example 1) comes from direct speech "Some people asked, 'Where is Julie?'" The choice of reporting verb often depends on the context and the speaker's intention. In this indirect speech which found in the data source consists of a reporting clause and a reported clause. Reporting clause *Some people asked* and the reported clause *where you were*. This sentence belongs to indirect question because the clause is introduced by interrogative word *asked*. In this example, the direct question would be: "Where are you?" When reporting this question indirectly, it becomes embedded within the statement "Some people asked..." resulting in the indirect question "where you were." *Some people* refers to Julia's and Sam's friends. They asked about Julie to Sam's sister and then Sam's sister reports this question to Julie. Their friends asked Julia because they know Julie and Sam have a relationship. In their mind they ask why Julia did not come to Sam's funeral ceremony. Example b) consists of reporting clause *I'm wondering* and the clause *if any of it matters*. This sentence also belongs to question because the clause is introduced by *if*. This has been in accordance with the theory. The verb "wonder" can be used in indirect speech. Indirect speech is also known as reported speech. The direct question that is being reported indirectly is: "Does any of it matter?" In the reported version, the direct question "Does any of it matter?" is embedded within the main statement "I'm wondering," making it an indirect question. The direct speech of this indirect speech does not have question word, so *if* is used. The sentence "I'm wondering if any of it matters" does indeed involve indirect speech. In indirect speech, the speaker reports or conveys the content of their own thoughts, feelings, or internal dialogue indirectly. In this case, "I'm wondering" is an indirect expression of the speaker's thoughts or uncertainty about whether something matters. In this case *I'm* in the reporting clause refers to Julie who is asking herself that did any of it matter.

Indirect Directive

"Indirect directive" refer to commands or requests expressed indirectly, often through modal verbs, reported speech, or other structures, rather than using the imperative form directly. Based on the novel *You've Reached Sam* there a lot of indirect command but in this paper only

explain five of those. The reported verb which are used in the data source are ask, told, and say. Those indirect directives can be seen as follows:

Mr. Lee asks me to wait here while he disappears inside the little office in the corner (Thao, 2021: 58)

Sam told me I shouldn't tell anyone about our calls (Thao, 2021: 62)

Example a) "Mr. Lee asks me to wait here while he disappears inside the little office in the corner" belongs to indirect directive because this utterance is interpreted as request in the context. In this sentence consists of reporting clause *Mr. Lee asks me* and the other clause *to wait here while he disappears inside the little office in the corner*. This indirect speech comes from direct speech: Mr. Lee said, "Wait here!" The introductory verb used in this indirect speech is *asks*. The verb ask used in indirect directive requires object. The object of the verb ask in this indirect directive is me, which refers to Julie. *Mr. Lee* is the owner of the local bookstore where Julie works. Mr. Lee asks Julie to wait here because the room is filled with stacks of brown boxes, each filled with various books so she does not have place for yet or just haven't sorted through. Example b) "Sam told me I shouldn't tell anyone about our calls" is an example of an indirect directive. This indirect speech directive consists of reporting clause *Sam told me* and the clause *I shouldn't tell anyone about our calls*. This indirect speech comes from direct speech: "Don't tell anyone about our calls." The original statement gives a directive by instructing or advising the listener not to tell anyone about their calls. In indirect speech, this directive is reported without quoting the exact words but still conveying the meaning or essence of the instruction. The reporting verb "told" indicates that Sam is conveying this instruction or advice to the speaker. Therefore, the sentence represents an indirect speech directive, reporting Sam's instruction or advice indirectly. *Me* refers to Julie. Sam told Julie that she shouldn't tell anyone about their calls because Sam doesn't want to take any risks if they call each other.

The Changes in Indirect Speech

This subchapter analyze the changes in indirect speech. According to Thomson and Martinet (1986), the changes in indirect speech typically involve alterations in verb tenses, pronouns, and word order. The changes often observed in indirect speech. It covers the changes of verb form, the changes of time, the changes of place, the changes of demonstrative, and the changes of pronoun, and possessive adjective. Of the changes that might occur based on theory, not all of these examples are found in this novel. The only changes that occur are, the changes of verb, pronoun, demonstrative and place. Those example can be mention and explain as follows.

The Changes of Verb Form

Thomson and Martinet, in their theory of indirect speech, explain the changes in verb forms as a way to accurately reflect the shift from the original speaker's perspective to the reporting speaker's perspective. The primary reasons for these changes include maintaining grammatical coherence and reflecting the temporal and contextual relationship between the original statement and its reporting. From the *You've Reached Sam* novel by Dustin Thao verb changes are only found in indirect statements, indirect questions, and indirect directive.

The Changes of Verb Form in Indirect Statement

Verbs often change when reporting something because of the shift in perspective and context between the original statement and the reported statement. This concept is a standard part of English grammar education and is not unique to Thomson and Martinet's approach. There are many indirect verb changes that occur in indirect statements in the data source. From those examples of verb changes, only three examples are discussed. The changes of verb form in indirect statement can be seen as follows:

I told them you weren't feeling well (Thao, 2021: 9)

Mom said you'd make an offer (Thao, 2021: 35)

Example a) consists of reporting clause *I told them* and the clause *you weren't feeling well*. The reporting clause is in the past tense. That can be seen in the use of the verb *told*, and the other clause is in the past continuous tense. That can be seen in the use of *to be were + V ing*, *weren't feeling well*. Based on the theory, if the indirect speech is in the past continuous tense, that means the direct speech is in the present continuous tense. In this example the form of the verb *be* (were) in the reported clause is derived from the form of the verb *to be are* in the direct speech. In this reported speech, *I* refers to Mika. *Them* refers to Julia's and Sam's friends. *You* refers to Julie. In this condition, Mika said that Julie was not feeling well because Mika did not want their friends think that Julie did not care about Sam. The direct speech comes from "Mika said, "You are not feeling well." Example b) the indirect speech "Mom said you'd make an offer," there is a verb change compared to the original direct speech. This indirect speech comes from direct speech: "You'll make an offer." In the direct speech, the verb "will" is used in the contracted form "you'll," indicating a future action. However, in the indirect speech, the verb changes to "would," which is the past tense form of "will." This change is due to the backshift of tense, where the future tense "will" in the direct speech is shifted to the past tense "would" in the indirect speech. This backshift maintains the sequence of tenses when reporting someone else's words. Therefore, there is a verb change from "will" to "would" in this indirect speech. In this indirect speech *Mom* refers to Julie's mother. *You* refers to Sam. Sam made the request because Julie was willing to grant Sam ticket to the Rockets game.

The Changes of Verb Form in Indirect Questions

Verb changes in indirect questions also takes place because the speakers original words are reported at different time. There are a great number of indirect questions containing verb changes but only three been picked out. Those example can be seen as follows:

I asked Sam why they didn't like me (Thao, 2021: 26)

Sam asked me if I wanted to grab something to eat (Thao, 2021: 85)

Example a) he sentence "I asked Sam why they didn't like me" contains an example of indirect speech, specifically an indirect question. "I asked Sam" is the reporting clause, indicating that the speaker is relaying information about a question they posed to Sam. "Why they didn't like me" is the indirect question, where the actual question asked by the speaker is reported indirectly. Instead of directly quoting the question, which would be "Why don't you like me?" the sentence reports the substance of the question indirectly. Indirect questions are a form of indirect speech where questions are reported without using the exact words of the original question. Instead, the speaker paraphrases or summarizes the question in their own words. So, in summary, "I asked Sam why they didn't like me" is an example of indirect speech, specifically an indirect question. This sentence consists of a reporting clause *I asked Sam* and a reported clause *why they didn't like me*. The verb used in the reporting clause is in the simple past tense *asked* and the second clause is in the simple past tense *did*. The verb *did* is from the verb *do*. In this sentence *I* refers to Julie and *they* refers to Taylor Settles. Julie asked this questions because she felt they noticed her was not at the funeral but Sam also said the people around here have a thing against those who grew up in the city. This indirect speech comes from direct speech, Julie said, "Why don't they like me?" Example b) consists of a reporting clause *Sam asked me* and a reported clause *if I wanted to grab something to eat*. The verb in the reporting clause is in the simple past tense *asked* and the verb in the reported clause is in the simple past tense *wanted*. The verb *Wanted* is from the verb *want*. This example shows a change of verb form from simple present into simple past tense. This indirect speech comes from direct speech Sam said, "Do you want to grab something to eat?"

The Changes of Verb Form in Indirect Commands

a. I told him he didn't have to go (Thao, 2021: 139)

In example a) "I told him he didn't have to go," the reported speech (or indirect speech) is "he didn't have to go." In indirect speech, the verb tense often does change from the original or direct speech. In this case, the original or direct speech might have been something like: "You don't have to go." When reporting this indirectly, the verb tense might change, so "don't" becomes "didn't." Here's the breakdown: Direct speech: "You don't have to go." Indirect speech: "I told him he didn't have to go." The verb "don't" changes to "didn't" when reporting the statement indirectly. This tense change is common in indirect speech, particularly when reporting past events.

Place Changes in Indirect Speech

The concept of place changes in indirect speech is likely discussed in the context of reporting statements that involve changes in location or place. When reporting someone else's statement or question indirectly, especially if it involves a change in place or location, adjustments may need to be made in the reported speech. In this novel there are not many changes in place, there are only 2 indirect sentences with changes in place. That can be seen as follow:

Sam mentioned he might be here tonight (Thao, 2021: V)

I told him to stay there (Thao, 2021: 79)

Example a) consists of a reporting clause and a reported clause. The reporting clause is *Sam mentioned* and the reported clause is *he might be here tonight*. In this indirect speech the adverb of place changes from *there* to *here* because the original speaker's words are reported at a different place. This happen according to the rule found in the main theory. The indirect speech comes from Sam said, "I may be there tonight." At that time Julie wants to leave the place but she remembers Sam tells her he may be there to night. Example b) consists of a reporting clause and a reported clause. The reporting clause is *I told him* and the reported clause is *to stay there*. The indirect speech comes from direct speech "stay here, Sam". Theoretically when direct speech is transformed into indirect speech, adverb of places usually change except when it is reported at the same place. This example shows a change of adverb of place from *here* in direct speech becomes *there* in indirect speech. Thomson and Martinet may discuss how to handle such changes effectively in reported speech to ensure accuracy and clarity in conveying the intended message. This could include understanding the appropriate pronoun shifts, tense changes, and other adjustments needed to accurately report statements involving changes in place or location.

The Changes of Pronoun in Indirect Speech

Pronoun changes often occur in indirect speech to reflect the perspective and point of view of the speaker reporting the original statement. Pronoun changes help maintain clarity and avoid confusion about who is speaking or being referred to in the reported speech. Changing pronouns ensures that the reported speech fits seamlessly into the reporting sentence. In the You Have Reached Sam Novel by Dustin Thao there are some pronoun changes they are pronouns object, pronoun subject, and possessive adjective. Those example can be seen bellows:

He asked me to meet him somewhere new for us to talk (Thao, 2021: 59)

Yuki asked me what I was writing about (Thao, 2021: 122)

Example a) consists of reporting clause and reported clause. The reporting clause is *He asked me* and the reported clause is *to meet him somewhere new for us to talk*. In the reported clause there are two pronouns. They are *him*, and *us*. Both of them are pronoun objects. The original speaker is *Sam* whose original words are reported by Julie. The original speaker's words are reported to a different person therefore the pronoun objects change. In this novel, Sam asks Julie to meet him somewhere new for them to talk. The speaker's original words can be "*Julie, please meet me somewhere new for us to talk.*" The pronoun object *me* changes into *him*. Example b) consists of a reporting clause and a reported clause. The reporting clause is *Yuki asked me* and the reported

clause is *what I was writing about*. In the reported clause there is a pronoun subject. The pronoun subject is *I*. The original speaker's words can be "what are you writing about?" The pronoun subject *you* changes into *I*.

The Possessive Adjective Changes in Indirect Speech

Mr. Lee said he was impressed with our knowledge of book and chose us specifically for the genres we read most (Thao, 2021: 90)

Professor Guildford invites me to lunch with my mom in the next few weeks to talk about other creative opportunities (Thao, 2021: 96)

In example a) consists of reporting clause and reported clause. The reporting clause is *Mr. Lee said* and the reported clause is *he was impressed with our knowledge of book and chose us specifically for the genres we read most*. This indirect speech comes from Mr. Lee said, "I am impressed with your knowledge of book." In the direct speech, the possessive adjective changes because it is reported indirectly. The possessive adjective "your" changes to "our" to reflect the perspective of the speaker reporting what was said (often referred to as the reporter's perspective). This adjustment ensures that the reported speech aligns with the viewpoint of the person conveying the information rather than the original speaker. So, when Mr. Lee's statement is reported indirectly, the possessive adjective changes from "your" to "our" to show that it is the reporter's knowledge or group being referred to, not the original audience's. This is a standard practice in transforming direct speech to indirect speech to maintain coherence and clarity in communication. In example b) consists of reporting clause and reported clause. The reporting clause is *Professor Guildford invites me* and the reported clause is *to lunch with my mom in the next few weeks to talk about other creative opportunities*. This indirect speech comes from direct speech *Professor Guildford said* "I invite you to lunch with your mom in the next few weeks to talk about other creative opportunities." In the direct speech, the possessive adjective also changes from direct speech into indirect speech because it is reported indirectly. The possessive adjective changes from "your" to "my."

The Modal in Indirect Speech

In theory, some modal verb in indirect speech changes into their corresponding forms and some of them remained unchanged. Some modal verbs remain unchanged in indirect speech because their meaning or intention remains consistent and independent of the reporting speaker's perspective or the tense of the reported speech. Those examples can be seen below:

I promised Sam I wouldn't tell, because it might affect our connection, and I can't risk that (Thao, 2021: 96)

Sam told me I shouldn't tell anyone about our calls because he doesn't know what might happen (Thao, 2021: 62)

In Example a) consists of a reporting clause and a reported clause. The reporting clause is *I promised Sam* and the reported clause is *I wouldn't tell, because it might affect our connection, and I can't risk that*. There are two modal verbs in the reported verb, they are *wouldn't* and *can't*. This indirect speech comes from direct speech: "I promised Sam I will not tell, because it may affect our connection, and I can't risk that." In the indirect speech, the modal verb "wouldn't" is changed from the original statement. However, there is a change in the modal verb "can't," which becomes "couldn't." This change occurs due to the back shifting of tenses in reported speech. When reporting someone's words in the past, modal verbs are often shifted to their past equivalents to maintain the sequence of tenses. So, "can't" changes to "couldn't" to reflect the past tense of the reporting verb "promised." Therefore, there is a modal change in this indirect speech from the modal verb "can't," which becomes "couldn't." Example b) consists of a reporting clause and a reported clause. The reporting clause is *Sam told me* and the reported clause is *I shouldn't tell anyone about our calls because he doesn't know what might happen*. In the indirect speech "Sam told me I shouldn't tell anyone about our calls because he doesn't know what might happen," the modal

verb "shouldn't" remains unchanged from the original statement. However, there's a subtle change in the modal verb "might."

"Shouldn't": In the original direct speech, "*I shouldn't tell anyone*" indicates advice or prohibition from Sam. In the indirect speech, this modal verb "shouldn't" remains the same, maintaining its function of advising against disclosing information about their calls.

"Might": In the original direct speech, the sentence might have been "he doesn't know what may happen," using "may" instead of "might." However, in the indirect speech, it's changed to "might," which is the past tense form of "may." This change is because when we report someone's words, we often backshift the tense to match the past tense of the reporting verb ("told" in this case). So, "may" shifts to "might" to maintain the sequence of tenses in indirect speech. So, the modal verb "shouldn't" remains the same, while "may" changes to "might" due to the back shifting of tense in indirect speech.

4. Conclusion

After completing the analysis, the following points can be drawn as conclusion. There are two conclusions that can be found after analyzing the data source, namely the type of indirect speech found and what changes have occurred.

There are three types of indirect speech in *You've Reached Sam* novel by Dustin Thao. They are indirect statements, indirect questions, and indirect commands. Each type has two examples sentences. In indirect statements, even though they are the same statements, the reporting verbs used are different, *for example, mention and say*. For indirect questions both types of questions, yes/no question and question with question words are obtained in the data source and written in this paper. From those two examples of indirect commands given in this paper also contain different reporting verb, they are ask and tell.

When changing direct speech into indirect speech there are some changes happens. It covers the changes of verb form, time, places, pronouns, and possessive adjectives. Based on the analysis, it is found that the verb form or tense changes such as, if direct speech uses present continuous tense, based on the theory it becomes past continuous tense in indirect speech. The adverb of place changes can be seen in *here* in direct speech becomes *there* in indirect speech. This happens because a speech is reported at different places. The personal pronoun and possessive adjective also change. The personal pronoun *I* in direct speech changes into *he* or *she* in indirect speech. And the possessive adjective *my* in direct speech becomes *his* or *her* in indirect speech.

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