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Diploma Paper

Reported Speech in English and Albanian

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1. Introduction

Nowadays English has taken the lead as the most used language in the world, and it is used not only in education but in business, politics, economy and many other fields as well. Because of the widespread of the language and the realization of the significance of English, many countries and nationalities seek to learn and master the language. Sometimes English grammar can appear complex to some specific languages especially when there is no suitable equivalence in the two languages. Direct and reported speech can create such confusions especially in the process of changing direct into reported speech since a number of changes occur, such as: tense changes, possessive adjective changes, changes of personal pronouns, adverbials of time and place, etc. Hardly a day goes by in which a reported speech is not heard or produced. Reporting the speech of others is such an essential part of human communication, that all natural languages known have a speech reporting device in their grammar.

This diploma thesis deals with reported speech in the Albanian and English language, therefore, its main focus is in describing reported speech in both languages and comparing the use of it and the changes that happen in the respective languages. The thesis is conceived with the purpose of presenting the greatest clarity regarding reported speech. For this purpose and for their comparison, a variety of books were chosen belonging to both, the English and Albanian language.

The thesis is conducted with the hope of showing differences and correspondences in the use of reported speech in English and Albanian texts, determine what the differences are (if there are any) and why they are there. When direct speech is reported there are some changes that show up regarding time, pronouns, form, as well as grammatical and stylistic changes. The intention of this study is to find out whether there is any difference in both languages in expressing reported speech, whether these changes are expressed more in English than in Albanian or vice versa. Furthermore, the different conditions that have to be fulfilled to have a successful reported speech will be discussed by looking at different examples, this is explored in the second part of the study (in the practical part). Reporting a direct speech in both languages makes it easier to see what changes happen in English and if these changes are present in Albanian, as for the first part of the study, it is more theoretical. In this part the literature consisting of grammar books, from which the information on reported speech was derived, is

introduced, described and clarified. Whenever it is dealt with two languages there is always place for doubts in comprehending the topic. This study is initiated and finished with the purpose of helping learners understand more clearly how to change direct speech into reported speech, and how to use reported speech in writing as well as in speaking correctly and without difficulties.

1.1. Hypothesis of the study

English and Albanian belong to the same Indo-European family of languages, nevertheless, they differ from each other in many levels, one of these levels is grammar, for the reason that English has some grammatical features that are not present in Albanian and vice versa. Reported speech as well being a part of grammar has specific features, rules and structures in both languages. Therefore, this study is based on the following hypothesis:

Even though English and Albanian languages have their own features, the study will search whether reported speech in the respective languages is similar or it differs.

1.2. Questions of the study

Taking into consideration that this study deals with reported speech in two languages, there are various points to consider in order to have a better understanding of reported speech, and find out the differences and similarities between the mentioned languages. These questions serve as a helping tool to achieve this goal of the study, they guide all stages of the inquiry and analysis and help organize the structure of the study. As a result, the study will be more productive and successful in conveying the intended information regarding reported speech in English and Albanian. The questions of the study are the following:

1. How is reported speech defined in both languages?
2. How does the structure of direct speech change when it is changed into reported speech?
3. In what ways does reported speech change when it is used in different kind of sentences?

4. What are the grammatical changes that happen in English and Albanian when an original text is reported?
5. What are the similarities and differences of reported speech between the two languages?

1.3. Aim of the study

This study concerning reported speech in English and Albanian language is aimed at defining speech in general terms and direct and reported speech in particular, in order to help clarify the differences between these two kinds of speech. In this way a better outlook regarding reported speech is made possible. It aims to help in comprehending the form of reported speech and the changes that may exist in between the two languages (English and Albanian), in describing and classifying the characteristics of reported speech at first in English then in Albanian. Lastly, it aims at finding out their similarities and differences by comparing them in texts chosen for the practical part.

1.4. Corpus of the study

With the intention of creating a reliable study regarding reported speech in both languages (English and Albanian) all the necessary information was taken from different English and Albanian books. Books which convey the needed material concerning the definition of reported speech, its use, form and construction in the respective languages. The information for the theoretical part was collected and adjusted from a variety of books (listed in references) related to English and Albanian grammar. On the other side, the examples needed for the practical part of this study, for the comparison of reported speech in English and Albanian, the similarities and differences that are likely to exist and other changes that occur when reporting in these two languages, were taken from a number of novels and books that contain direct speech. These examples were then turned into reported speech to see what changes happen when the same text is reported in English and Albanian.

1.5. Methodology of the study

The methodology of the study depends on knowledge collected from a variety of grammar books to gain an understanding of how reported speech is presented. This method ensured that the collected data was chosen carefully from the most reliable sources that were at disposal. At the end the data collected was analyzed in various examples taken from novels such as: Herman Hesse, *"Siddharta"*, Veton Surroi, *"Gorillat që si pamë"*, D. H. Lawrence, *"Lady Chatterley's Lover"*. After the analyzes the similarities and differences of reported speech between the two languages were found out. The findings are stated in the last section of this study. Furthermore, to help learners have a clear understanding about speech in general and reported speech in particular, various definitions and examples of the study were extracted from different books of English and Albanian authors who are concerned with this field of language such as: Longman, Huddleston, Thomason, Martinet, Domi, Xhaferi etc.

1.6. Literature review

The focus for this study was set in the literature that contains reliable information regarding reported speech, various grammar books (mentioned in references) which deal directly and specifically with reported speech and its characteristics. The study is focused only on the relevant academic literature with data collected and theories put together by recognized experts in the field. The study starts with some general information regarding speech in general and the definitions of direct and reported speech focusing then on the main part of the study: "Reported speech" in both languages, the data was collected by as many different perspectives as possible based on the books that could be reached at. The attention was given in clarifying reported speech in both languages continuing with a deeper analysis of reported speech including different examples where reported speech is used.

2. Reported speech in English

2.1. Definitions of direct and reported speech

There are different ways to interpret the meaning of an utterance in terms of what the speaker intended to convey. The type of action performed by a speaker with the utterance can usually be recognized. The term 'speech act' is used to describe different actions such as requesting, commanding, questioning or informing. A *speech act* can be defined as the action performed by a speaker with an utterance (Yule, 2010: 133). Speakers and writers in most of the cases make themselves clear about what they are trying to transmit to their listeners or writers, and in what circumstances a speech is done.

What people think or what they have said can be reported in different ways, according to Thomason and Martinet (1986: 254) there are two ways of relating what a person has said: direct and indirect. When direct speech is used there are no changes, the original speaker's exact words are repeated, for example: *She said, "I will not do it again"*. These repeated remarks are placed between inverted commas, and a comma or colon is placed immediately before the remark (Thomason and Martinet, 1986: 191). Direct speech is found in different conversations in various books, plays, quotations etc. "Direct speech purports to be identical to the original, and hence the embedded and non-embedded constructions do not differ with respect to the form of the reported speech itself" (Huddleston and Pullum, 2002: 1026). There are no changes regarding neither the lexical nor the grammatical part because the words are simply repeated exactly the same.

In reported speech the exact meaning of a remark or a speech is given without necessarily using the speaker's exact words, for example: *She said: "I will not do it again"/ She said that she would not do it again*. When reported speech is used, the commas after the word "say" are omitted, and the word "that" is usually omitted after 'say' and 'tell+ object', but it is kept in other cases when verbs such as: explain, complain, point out, etc., are used (Thomason and Martinet, 1986: 191). This shows that reported speech (also called indirect speech) does not use quotation marks to express what a person has said, and it does not have to be word for word. According to Alexander (1998: 224) reported speech occurs more often in continuous paragraphs of reported language, not in unrelated sentences, therefore, different phrases such as: *she went on to say, he continued, he added that, he observed, she noted, they remarked* are used. Yes/No answers or

adverbs like 'well' are common in direct speech, but they disappear when they are reported. The rules of reporting a speech are not applied mechanically whenever direct speech is reported, in reported speech the words that are heard and read are interpreted by the reporter, therefore, different reporting verbs are used like: *exclaim, insist, suggest*, etc.

Even though reported speech is used in both: writing and speaking, it is more common in speaking, just as Thomason and Martinet (1986: 254) state: "Indirect speech is normally used when a conversation is reported verbally, though direct speech is sometimes employed here to give a more dramatic effect". Reported speech is preferred to be used more often because when people undertake different actions of speaking or writing (*requests, orders*) they appear to be more gentle and academic and are often considered to be more polite in the eyes of the society than if they were to use direct speech (Yule, 2010: 135). The way a message is given and the words that are used by different individuals often serve as indicators of that individual's character.

2.2. The difference between direct and reported speech

Direct and reported speech are two different ways to say what someone else has said. One of the major differences is that in direct speech the exact words that a person has said are quoted, and quotation marks are added around their words, as well as a speech tag such as 'he said' or 'she asked' before or after the quote. For example:

"Are you free tonight?" she asked.

"I failed a test last week", she said.

He asked, "Have you seen any good movies lately?"

Direct speech is used as well to say what someone is saying right now, as in:

She says, "Hurry up".

Reported speech is another way of saying what someone else has said, but without quotation marks. Reported speech does not usually repeat the words exactly as the person said them. It typically changes the tense of the verbs. For example, if the speaker uses a present tense verb, it is changed into the past tense. If the speaker uses a past tense verb, it is changed into the past perfect, moreover, pronouns and time expressions are changed.

Another noticeable difference is deixis, in direct speech deictic expressions are interpreted relative to the original text, whereas the deictic expressions in reported speech are interpreted relative to the report (Huddleston and Pullum, 2002: 1023). According to Huddleston and Pullum (2002: 1023): "Deictic expressions are interpreted in relation to certain features of the utterance-act, the place, time and participants". In direct speech these expressions are interpreted in relation to the original utterance, whereas in reported speech they are interpreted in relation to the act of reporting, e.g.:

-Direct speech: *The student said: "I have accomplished my assignment"*.

-Reported speech: *The student said that he had accomplished his assignment.*

In the example of direct speech, the original speaker is referred to by the means of the first person singular pronoun 'I', whereas in reported speech by the means of the third person singular pronoun 'he'. The tense is changed as well, it is back-shifted from present perfect to past perfect. In reported speech tenses, word-orders and pronouns are usually different from those in the original speech (direct speech).

2.3. The conversion from direct into reported speech

When direct (quoted) speech is converted into reported speech there are some changes that present themselves, the most important changes are those of person, place, and time (Gërmizaj, 2004: 127). These changes are most easily studied by considering statements, questions and commands separately. "When we report speech in a different context from the one in which it was originally produced, we often need to change pronouns, references to time and place, and words such as this, that, these, as well as verb tenses" (Hewings, 2002: 92). Other changes are those of pronouns and possessive adjectives which usually change from first or second to third person except when the speaker is reporting his own words (Thomson and Martinet, 1986: 194). For example: *He said: "I have lost my wallet"/ He said that he had lost his wallet. I said: "I admire you"/ I said that I admired you* (the speaker is reporting his own words). Some changes of person, place and time that occur when direct speech is converted into reported speech are:

	Direct speech	Reported speech
Person	I my you (sing.) you (pl.) we our	he/she his/hers he/she/I they/we they their
Place	here	there
Time	now today yesterday tomorrow this week last week an hour ago	then/at the time that day the day before/the previous day the next day/the following day that week the week before/the previous week an hour before/earlier

Table 1. Changes of person, place and time in reported speech (Gërmizaj, 2004: 128)

As it can be noted in the above table the form of pronouns is changed in reported speech, the first person singular 'I' is changed into the third person singular 'he/she', for example: Direct speech: *"I have forgotten the answer".*/ Reported speech: *He said that he had forgotten the answer.* The other pronouns change as well in the way it is shown in the table. When the adverb of place 'here' is present in the original speech, this adverb is replaced with 'there' in reported speech. The time of the speech is changed as well, in direct speech the time is usually more specific (*now, today, tomorrow, an hour ago*), whereas in reported speech these adverbs of time are replaced with other adverbs like *then/at the time, that day, that week.*

People use these above mentioned words in order to talk about the place where they are speaking and the time when they are speaking, therefore, when these words (*now, here, last week, an hour ago etc.*) are reported in a different place or at a different time they often change to adapt in the moment of speaking. The time these words change and how they change depends on the situation they are quoted or reported.

2.4. Statements in reported speech

2.4.1. That-clauses

When statements are reported they usually require the presence of a 'that-clause': "He said *that* he was enjoying his work". In informal speech and when more common verbs are used including: *mention, agree, say, think, promise*, 'that' is omitted, whereas when speech deals with less common reporting verbs such as: *speculate, warn, deny, grumble, answer, argue, reply*, and in formal writing then 'that' is included in reported speech. It is also included when the 'that-clause' does not immediately follow the verb (Hewings, 2002: 88). For example: "He announced in front of his family *that* he is getting married". 'That' serves to link the two parts of the sentence when a speech is reported, it is helpful to be used but it is not obligatory as it can be seen in the above explanation. In some cases it is used but it is omitted almost every time when it does not influence the meaning or the structure of the speech.

2.4.2. Tense changes

According to Alexander (1998: 218): "We tend to use past tenses in indirect speech because we are reporting past events, so we use the past tense of reporting verbs (he said that ... he told me that), how we report is a matter of common sense and we can mix tenses if we want to". For the reason that in reported speech past events are reported, in most of the cases reported speech is introduced by a past tense. Verbs in direct speech are changed into the corresponding verbs in reported speech, these verbs are called reporting verbs. In the statement: "*He said (that) he was tired that day*", the first clause of the sentence 'He said' is the main clause, whereas the second clause 'He was tired' is called the subordinate clause. In reported speech the main clause is called '*the reporting clause*', and the subordinate clause is called '*the reported clause*', the tense of the reported verb changes for one tense back (Gërmizaj, 2004: 128). "A useful general rule is: present becomes past and past becomes past perfect" (Alexander, 1998: 218). When the reporting verb is in the present simple, present perfect, or future tense, then there is no change of the reported verb because there is no important change of time. Tenses are not changed in the cases when the reporting is done about situations that have not changed, that are the same always

(Gërmizaj, 2004: 130), e.g.: Direct speech: *"The stars shine at night"*, whereas reported speech takes the form: *He said that the stars shine at night*. When a past reporting verb is used, normally the tense in reported speech changes, it moves one tense back, but when a present reporting verb is used then the tense does not change, e.g.:

-Direct speech: *Annie said, "I am hungry"*.

-Reported speech: *Annie said that she was hungry* ('am' changes to 'was') or
Annie says that she is hungry (the verb does not change).

Reported speech is introduced by a verb in a present tense in the cases when:

- a conversation that is still going on is reported,
- a letter is read and reported to someone else,
- instructions are read and reported,
- a statement that someone makes very often is reported (Thomson and Martinet, 1986: 192).

Except in these cases, in almost every other time reported speech is introduced by a verb in the past tense, therefore, when a reported speech is made the verb in direct speech must be changed into the corresponding past form.

Sometimes the past tense does not change, even though in theory the past changes to past perfect there are cases when the change is not necessary, especially in spoken English, e.g.: *He said: "Ann arrived on Monday"*, can be reported as: *He said that Ann arrived on Monday*, but also: *He said that Ann had arrived on Monday*. In the cases it causes confusions about the relative times of the actions then it must change, for example, direct speech in: *He said, 'I loved her'* must become: *'He said he had loved her'* in reported speech as otherwise there would be a change of meaning. The past continuous tense in theory changes to the past perfect continuous but in practice usually remains unchanged except when it refers to a completed action: *She said, 'We were thinking of selling the house but we have decided not to'*, is written as: *She said that they had been thinking of selling the house but had decided not to* (Thomson and Martinet, 1986: 192-193). The changes in tenses can be shown in the following table:

Direct speech	Reported speech
Simple present	Simple past
Present continuous	Past continuous
Present perfect	Past perfect
Present perfect continuous	Past perfect continuous
Simple past	Past perfect
Future	Conditional
Future continuous	Conditional continuous
Conditional	Conditional

Table 2. Changes of tenses in reported speech (Thomson and Martinet, 1986: 223)

In the above table are listed the tenses in direct and reported speech, it is shown how tenses are replaced when a speech is changed, for example, simple present in direct speech is changed into simple past in reported speech, simple past into past perfect, future into conditional, the conditional tense remains the same in direct speech and reported speech. As it was stated in the above text, when direct speech is turned into reported speech tenses change, they are back-shifted, because reported speech presents a past event, something that has happened previously, before the time of the reporting.

2.5. Questions in reported speech

In reported speech questions take neither quotation marks nor question marks, for example: *He asked me if I was ready* (Alexander, 1998: 220). Apart from the omission of quotation marks and question marks other changes are necessary, the same as in statements. When questions are reported, then tenses, pronouns, possessive adjectives and adverbs of time and place change. The reason for omitting question marks is because the interrogative form of the verb changes to the affirmative form (Thomson and Martinet, 1986: 197), for example: *They said, "When are you getting married?"/ They asked when they were getting married.*

The tense in reported questions changes the same way as in statements because when questions are reported they change to statement word order. The present tense becomes past and

past becomes past perfect, for example: *She said, "Are you ready?"/ He asked me if/whether I was ready*, but if a question that has just been said is reported then there is no need to change the tense, for example: *"Are you ready?"/ 'What did John ask you?'- He asked me if/whether I'm ready* (Alexander, 1998: 220). Tenses, adjectives and pronouns in reported questions change in the same way as in reported statements. The auxiliary verb *do* (*do, does, did*) is not used in reported questions, for example: *"What do you want?"/ I asked what she wanted*. When a direct question begins with a question word (*when, where, who, how, why* etc.), then the question word is repeated in the reported question: *She said, "What do you want?"/ She asked (them) what they wanted*. When there is no question word (like *what, where, why, when, which*) 'if' or 'whether' must be used to introduce a reported question, for example: *"Can you speak German?"/ They wanted to know whether I speak German*. When the word 'ask' is used, in most of the cases an object is used as well in order to tell who was asked for a specific thing, for example: *"Are you cold?"/ I asked Ken if he was cold* (Beaumont and Granger, 1992: 126). " We use 'if' or 'whether' after *ask, want to know, wonder, (not) know, didn't say/tell me*" (Alexander, 1998: 220). Questions in direct speech become statements in reported speech, therefore they change the same way as statements do.

2.6. Commands in reported speech

Reported commands are usually expressed by a *verb of command+ object+ infinitive*, the verbs that can be used are the following: *tell, advise, ask, beg, command, encourage, entreat, forbid, implore, invite, order, recommend, remind, request, urge, warn*, e.g.:

-Direct command: He said, "Lie down, Tom".

-Reported command: He told Tom to lie down.

Negative commands are usually reported by adding the word 'not'+ infinitive, e.g.: "Don't swim out too far, boys," I said/ I warned/told the boys *not to swim* out too far. In direct commands the person addressed is not mentioned: *He said: "Go away"*. When a direct command is turned into a reported command a noun or a pronoun must be added: He told *me/him/her/us/them/the children* to go away (Thomson and Martinet, 1986: 199).

Commands are also reported by the 'be+ infinitive construction' which is especially useful in the cases when:

- the command is introduced by a verb in the present tense: He says, "*Meet* me at the station"/ He says that we *are to meet* him at the station (*He tells us to meet him* would be less likely).
- the command is preceded by a clause (usually of time or condition): He said, "If she leaves the house follow her" could be reported as: He said that if she left the house I *was to follow* her. The type: 'He told me to follow her if she left the house' could be used as well, but if 'tell+ infinitive construction' is used then the order of the sentence must be changed as well, and sometimes this results in a rather confusing sentence, for example, the request 'If you see Ann tell her to ring me' would become 'He told me to tell Ann to ring him if I saw her'. Such requests can only be reported by the 'be+ infinitive construction': He said that if I saw Ann I *was to tell* her to ring him (Thomson and Martinet, 1986: 200). It depends on the kind of sentences used, the type of the command and the kind of verbs used which influence the structure of a reported command.

2.7. Modal verbs in reported speech

"When there is a modal verb in the original statement, suggestion, etc., this sometimes changes when we report what was said" (Hewings, 2002: 98). The changes of modal verbs that occur in reported speech are shown in the following table:

Modal verbs in direct speech	Modal verbs in reported speech
could, would, should, might, ought to, used to	could, would, should, ought to, used to
will, can, may	will, can, may will, can, may (existing or future situations and present tense verb in reporting clause) will or would, can or could, may or might (existing or future situations and past tense verb in reporting clause)
shall	would, should (offers, suggestions, etc.)

must (= necessary)	must or had to
must (= conclude)	had to
mustn't	mustn't

Table 3. The change of modal verbs in reported speech (Hewings, 2002: 98)

In the above table can be seen the changes that happen with modal verbs in reported speech when they are present in the original speech. Nevertheless, there are cases in reported speech where modal verbs are used even though they are not present in the original (direct) speech: "You're not allowed to smoke here"/ She told me that I *mustn't* smoke there. When the words of someone else are reported, the verbs: *could*, *would*, *should*, *might*, *ought to* and *used to* do not change: "We *might* drop in if we have time"/ They said they *might* drop in if they have time. There are some exceptions: when 'might' is used as a request form it changes: "You *might* post these for me", he said/ He *asked me* to post them for him. When 'ought to/should/must' are used to express advice rather than obligation they take the form of 'advice+ object+ infinitive': "You *ought to/should/must* read the instructions", said Ann/ Ann *advised/urged/warned* me to read the instructions (Thomson and Martinet, 1986: 193).

The modal verb 'will' usually changes to 'would', 'can' to 'could', and 'may' to 'might'. However, if the situation that is being reported still exists or is still in the future and the verb in the reporting clause is in a present tense then 'will', 'can', and 'may' are preferred in the reported clause: "Careful! You'll fall through the ice!"/ I warned him he *would* fall through the ice, and "I'll be in Paris at Christmas"/ She tells me she'll be in Paris at Christmas. If the reported situation still exists or is still in the future and the verb in the reporting clause is in a past tense, then either 'would' or 'will', 'can' or 'could', and 'may' or 'might' can be used in the reported clause (Hewings, 2002: 98). For example: *I said, "It can be done/ I said it can (could) be done.*

'Used to' does not change regardless of the type of the sentence: "I know the place well because I *used to* live here", he explained/ He explained that he knew the place well because he *used to* live there (Thomason and Martinet, 1986: 194). When direct speech wants to express that something is necessary to be done, then either 'must' or 'had to' can be used in reported speech: "You *must* be home by 9 o'clock"/ She said I *must/ had* to be home by 9 o'clock. When 'must' is used to show that something has happened or that something is true in the original text then the reported text uses only 'must' and not 'had to': "I keep forgetting things. I *must* be getting old"/

Neil said he *must* be getting old because he keeps forgetting things. The same is with the negative form 'mustn't', this form can be used but not the form 'didn't have to': "You *mustn't* tell my brother"/ He warned me that I *mustn't* tell his brother (Hewings, 2002: 98). Modal verbs are changed when a speech is reported, not only their tense is changed but in various cases the modal is replaced by a completely new modal in reported speech.

3. Reported speech in Albanian

3.1. Definitions of direct and reported speech

When a speech is reported, be it soon after the moment of speaking or be it a previous speech it can be done in different ways, regardless of whose speech is being reported (that of the speaker himself or of someone else). It depends on the speaker because he can report the words as they were said before (make a literal reproduction) or he can make changes during the rewriting/retelling. In the sentence which is being reported, two parts which differ from one another are noticeable. These two parts are: the words that are said before and are reproduced, which represent the speech, and the words that are added by the reproducer of the speech as a form of introductory words for the reproduced words, which represent the author's words. These two parts of words together form the completed reported speech (Xhaferi, 2009: 426) e.g.:

-Direct speech: *"My daughter is at a chemistry department"- said Kozmai.*

-Reported speech: *Kozmai said that his daughter was at a chemistry department.*

According to Domi (1997: 662): "The merging of the reproduced part with the author's words part is done with the help of different linguistic means: Phonetic, phonological (intonation), lexical and syntactical means, which differ in the two main forms of connectivity between their types". There cannot exist a direct or reported speech with only one part (the reported words and author's words), but what can be done is to not present the author's words because they are understood. This happens especially when it is dealt with dialogues, the reported part can consist of a single simple sentence or an entire system of sentences or periods, as well as the part with the author's words which can be either a simple or a complex sentence

(Domi, 1997: 661-662). Author's words in a reported speech show that the readers and listeners are taking information that was said by someone else at a different time.

Direct and reported speech are classified according to the form of the speech reproduction. When the words of someone else are reported word for word, when they are said without changing anything, then a direct speech is made. When words are reported differently, when the form of the words is changed, when the meaning of the speech is represented by omitting or adding new words, but maintaining the same thoughts of the speaker, then a reported speech is made (Xhaferi, 2009: 428-432). Direct speech preserves all the characteristics that the original speech has, the lexical, grammatical and stylistic features, this happens because the reproducer in this type of speech moves back mentally from the present into the past and puts himself in the place of the first/original speaker. As a result different conditions like time, place, speaker, listener etc., remain unchanged and the speech as well, e.g.:

Shefi ynë tha: "Ne do t'u ndihmojmë vullnetarëve dhe vetura do ti sjellë viktimat në çadrat tona".
Our boss said: "We will help the volunteers and the car will bring the victims in our tents".

Citations are often used in direct speech, they are an even stronger unchanged reproduction of the original speech and they introduce the words of an authoritative person or even an entire nation (Domi, 1997: 662-667). They are said exactly how the original speaker said them without changing a single word, for example: *White has said: "Some souls are too deep for shallow people".*

3.2. The difference between direct and reported speech

A basic difference between direct and reported speech is that in direct speech the words are reported exactly the way they were said by the original speaker and quotation marks are used, whereas in reported speech only the meaning of the words said is reported and not the same form and words. Quotation marks which are present in direct speech are not used in reported speech, they are omitted.

In direct speech the reporting is done with independent main sentences while in reported speech with subordinate contiguous sentences. In direct speech demonstrative sentences are

present, but when the original speech is reported then conjunctions such as: *that (se, që)* are used. The infinitive form of the verbs can be used as well without any conjunction, especially when the direct speech is in the imperative form which prevents the use of the conjunction 'that' (Domi, 1977: 168), therefore, instead of using conjunctions the infinitive form is used, e.g.:

-Direct speech: Albanian: *Ajo që thua ti do parë, o Selman, - vijoi Xhemali.*

English: *What you say needs to be proved Selman", Xhemal said.*

-Reported speech: Albanian: *Xhemali vijoi duke thënë se (që) duhej parë ajo që thonte Selmani.*

English: *Xhemal said that what Selman said needed to be proved.*

Other differences between direct and reported speech, or more specifically the characteristics of reported speech in comparison with direct speech are: the presence of the subordinate conjunction 'that', the change of the pronouns from the first person (if the speech is said in the first person) into the third person, the change of tenses from the present into the past. A characteristic of the Albanian reported speech is that when the original speech which contains exclamations is reported, the exclamations are omitted. Exclamations are not used in reported speech because its characteristics make it impossible to use all the linguistic and stylistic tools of creating a speech filled with emotional and colorful thoughts (Domi, 1997: 667-673). For the reason that exclamations are not used, in the majority of cases reported speech is more formal and transmits fewer emotions than direct speech.

3.3. The conversion of direct into reported speech

When direct speech is converted into reported speech there are some changes that occur, one of the changes is that the two parts that exist in direct speech (the author's words and the reported words) become a unity in reported speech, they become sentences of the same period. The author's words become the main sentence whereas the reported words play the role of the subordinate sentence and they are connected by the conjunction 'that' (Domi, 1997: 668), e.g.:

- Direct speech: *She said: "I like this book very much".*

- Reported speech: *She said that she liked that book very much.*

Furthermore, there are changes concerning tenses, pronouns, places and many other changes which are of the grammatical, lexical and stylistic character. Some changes that happen concerning pronouns, adjectives and demonstrative adverbs are the following:

Direct speech	Reported speech
ky (this)	ai (that)
i këtillë (such a)	i atillë (such a)
këtu (here)	atje (there)
këndeje (this way)	andeje (that way)
kështu (like this)	ashtu (like that)
kësisoj (like this)	asisoj (like that)
tani (now)	atëherë (then)

Table 4. The change of pronouns, adjectives and adverbs in reported speech (Domi, 1997: 670)

As it can be seen from the pronouns, adjectives and demonstrative adverbs written in the above table, their form is changed when they are mentioned in reported speech. In Albanian adverbs *kështu* and *kësisoj* are reported as *ashtu* and *asisoj*, whereas in English there is only one form of these adverbs in direct speech *like this*, and one form in reported speech *like that*. The demonstrative pronoun 'ky' (this) is changed into the demonstrative pronoun 'ai' (that), for example:

-Direct speech: Albanian: Ai tha: "Ky njeri e meriton vendin e parë".

English: He said: "This person deserves the first place".

-Reported speech: Albanian: Ai tha që ai njeri e meritonte vendin e parë.

English: He said that that person deserved the first place.

3.3.1. Tense changes

The words reported are the words of someone else said before the moment of the reporting, therefore, changes in tenses occur depending on the tense that is used in the original speech. The tense changes are of this kind:

Direct speech	Reported speech
Koha e tashme (Present tense)	Koha e pakryer (Imperfect tense)
Koha e pakryer (Imperfect tense) E kryer (Past tense) E kryer e thjeshtë (Past Simple)	E kryer e plotë (Past Perfect)
Koha e ardhme (Future tense)	Kushtore (Conditional)

Table 5. The change of tenses in reported speech (Domi, 199: 671)

These changes shown in the table are not strictly done, tenses are not changed always in this order, for example, there is no need to change a sentence into the imperfect tense every time a sentence is in the present tense. These changes are not mechanically done but they depend on their meaning, for example, when the present tense has the meaning of a future time then it is turned into a conditional (Domi, 1997: 671), e.g.:

-Direct speech:

Albanian: *Djali iu pergjigj: "Po s'e gjeta atë burrë që t'i marr gjakun babit, s'kthehem gjallë në shtëpi".*

English: *The boy said: "If I don't find that man to revenge my father's death I will not return home alive".*

-Reported speech:

Albanian: *Djali iu pergjigj se, po të mos e gjente atë burrë që t'i merrte gjakun babit, s'do të kthehej gjallë në shtëpi.*

English: *The boy said that if he could not find that man to revenge his father's death he would not return home alive.*

Moreover, depending on the meaning of a direct speech there are cases when there is no change of tenses when that speech is reported, this is the case with the present tense. When the verb has a general meaning, for example: *She often says: "People have to be patient but everything has a limit"/ She often says that people have to be patient but that everything has a limit*, the verb 'have to' remains unchanged because the sentence reported is a general thought (Domi, 1997: 671). There are always exceptions regarding the change of tenses when a direct

speech is reported, in some cases tenses change but in some other cases they do not, this change is influenced a lot by the type of the sentence which is reported.

3.4. The change of pronouns

Some changes when a direct speech is reported affect pronouns as well, especially possessive and personal pronouns. These changes form two general rules:

- The first and second person are changed into the third person which remains unchanged when the reporting is done from the people who were not present in the original speech or when they are not related to the first listener and speaker:

-Direct speech: Albanian: *"Nuk lë njeri- thoshte,- të prekë telat e mia"*.

English: *He said: "I won't let anyone get on my nerves"*.

-Reported speech: Albanian: *Ai thoshte se nuk linte njeri të prekte telat e tij.*

English: *He said that he won't let anyone get on his nerves* (Domi, 1997: 669).

In this example the personal pronoun 'e mia' (Eng. mine) is changed from the first person singular into the third person singular 'e tij' (Eng. his), the formal form of 'you' is changed into third person singular when it is reported, for example:

-Direct speech: Albanian: *Ju e keni prezantuar shfaqjen?- pyeti.*

English: *He asked: Did you present the show?.*

-Reported speech: Albanian: *Pyeti në e kishte prezantuar ai shfaqjen.*

English: *He asked if he had presented the show.*

The plural form of courtesy "Ju" (Eng. you) is changed into the third person singular 'ai' (he).

- If the reporting is done from the people who were present in the first speech, or that are somehow related with the people in the original speech then there are some specific rules:
 - a) The first and second person remain unchanged in the cases when reported speech has still the same speakers in the first person and the same listeners in the second person, e.g.:

-Direct speech:

Albanian: *Unë e di,- ju thosha juve,- se kur të rriteni, do ta kuptoni, më mirë rolin e dijes.*

English: *I told you: "I know that when you grow up you will understand better the importance of knowledge".*

-Reported speech:

Albanian: *Unë ju thosha juve se e dija që, kur të rriteshit, do ta kuptonit më mirë rolin e dijes.*

English: *I have told you that I knew that when you grew up you would understand better the importance of knowledge (Domi, 1997: 670).*

b) The first and second person change reciprocally when the first person is changed into the listener and the second person into the reproducer (Domi, 1996: 670), e.g.:

-Direct speech:

Albanian: *Ju na thoshit shpesh: "Unë jam i sigurt se ju nuk do të më harroni kurrë".*

English: *You told us often: "I am sure you will never forget me".*

-Reported speech:

Albanian: *Ju na thoshit shpesh se ishit të sigurt që ne nuk do t'ju harronim kurrë.*

English: *You told us often that you were sure we would never forget you.*

3.5. Questions in reported speech

Apart from the number of lexical and grammatical changes that happen during the inversion of direct speech into reported speech, one of the changes which is highly noticeable is the loss of emotions in reported speech especially when we have questions (Xhaferi, 2009: 443). For example: Alb. *Aha!- tha vajza,- çfarë po bëni këtu?* (Eng. *The girl said: "What are you doing here?"*), when this question is turned into reported speech almost all the emotions presented are lost, this happens because the exclamations are not used, in this case the exclamation 'Aha', therefore, reported speech takes the form of: Alb. *Vajza pyeti se çfarë po bënin ata atje* (Eng. *The girl asked what they were doing there*).

In general, different lexical and grammatical elements which convey emotions are substituted with elements of a more neutral style or they are omitted totally, especially when the speech deals with greetings, curses, swearing etc., for example:

-Direct speech: Albanian: *O xhaxha,- thirri djali, pa eja, pa eja!*

English: *The boy called: Uncle come, come.*

-Reported speech: Albanian: *Djali i thirri xhaxhait të vinte.*

English: *The boy called his uncle, the exclamation "O" is omitted as well as the repeated words 'pa eja' (come) which were used in direct speech to show excitement.*

4. Comparison of reported speech between English and Albanian

4.1. Analysis of reported speech in examples

As it was mentioned in the above text, speech in English as well as in Albanian is divided in two parts: Direct speech and reported speech. Various lexical and grammatical features which direct speech has are omitted or are changed into a different form when a speech is turned into reported speech. All the above mentioned features that reported speech has, and the other grammatical and lexical changes that it influences in English and Albanian, can be best analyzed and mirrored through different examples of direct speech and their change into reported speech. This is done by reporting them in the two languages and emphasizing the similarities and differences that are present between them. The examples are taken from various novels and books, with the focus on dialogues where direct speech mostly appears, these examples are then changed into reported speech and are further analyzed.

-Direct speech:

English: *"But you never believed in your women. You don't even really believe in me", she said.*

Albanian: *Ti kurrë nuk u ke besuar grave tua.- Ti nuk më beson madje as mua- tha ajo.*

-Reported speech:

English: *She said that he had never believed in his women and that he didn't even really believe in her.*

Albanian: *Ajo tha që ai kurrë nuk u kishte besuar grave të tij, që në të vertetë nuk i kishte besuar as asaj.*

In the above example, direct speech is reported in both languages, as it can be seen from the examples the rules to change direct into reported speech are almost the same. The change of

pronouns: the personal pronoun 'you' in both languages is changed from the first person singular into the third person singular 'he' and 'ai'. In both languages there is the omission of quotation marks and the merging of the two sentences with the conjunction 'that' (Alb. 'që'), as well as the change of tenses, from past simple into past perfect and from present simple into past simple.

-Direct speech: Albanian: *"Askush nuk e ka ditur- thoshte,- që do vinin kaq herët"*.

English: *He said: "No one knew they would come this early"*.

-Reported speech: Albanian: *Thoshte se askush nuk e kishte ditur që do kishin ardhur aq herët.*

English: *He said that no one had known that they would come that early.*

Apart from the changes mentioned in the previous example (the back-shifted tenses, the use of the conjunction 'that' in reported speech), in this example it is shown the change of time patterns, from 'this early' to 'that early' (Alb. nga 'kaq herët' në 'aq herët'). Another difference is that in direct speech in Albanian the reporting verb can be written in the middle of the speech which is not the case in English.

-Direct speech: Albanian: *Më tha: "Duhet të shkoj"*.

English: *She said: "I must go"*.

-Reported speech: Albanian: *Më tha që duhej të shkonte.*

English: *She said that she had to go.*

In Albanian as it can be seen from the above example the subject can be left out in direct and reported speech because it is understood, whereas in English a subject must be added in order for the sentence to have meaning when turned into reported speech.

-Direct speech: Albanian: *"Dielli lind dhe perëndon çdo ditë",- tha ai.*

English: *He said: "The sun rises and sets every day"*.

-Reported speech: Albanian: *Ai tha që dielli lind dhe perëndon çdo ditë.*

English: *He said that the sun rises and sets every day.*

When something that is always true is reported, or something that is true for a very long time then the tense is not changed, as it is the case with the previous example in which the reported part remains the same in English as well as in Albanian.

4.2. The similarities and differences

Albanian language, just like English, is part of the Indo-European family of languages, although both languages belong to the Indo-European family, in addition to common features in the semantic and grammatical system, they have various differences from one another. As it became clear from this paper and the various examples analyzed above there are much more similarities than differences regarding reported speech, this can be seen more clearly in the below division:

Similarities:

- In both languages reported speech has the same meaning: the speaker's words are reported without using the exact words, only the meaning of the speech is reported and not the whole speech word for word.
- Reported speech in English as well as in the Albanian language consists of two parts: the reporting part and the reported part.
- The reporting verb does not change while the reported part changes according to the rules of changing a direct speech into a reported speech.
- As concerning the tense, in both languages tenses are shifted backwards because, it is being reported something that has happened in the past.
- Other grammatical changes which occur in both languages are: the change of pronouns, possessive adjectives, adverbs of time etc.
- In both languages the conjunction 'that' is present in reported speech, and this conjunction serves as a connection between the reporting verb and the reported part.

- Punctuation marks undergo the same changes, in direct speech the speech is presented in quotes but when the original speech is reported then the quotes are omitted. When questions in direct speech are reported then question marks are omitted because questions take the form of statements.

Differences:

- When a direct speech is reported, the emotions that direct speech has through the use of different exclamations are lost, because in reported speech such exclamations are omitted. The fading of emotions is much more apparent in Albanian than in English because Albanian tends to use more exclamations than English in direct speech.
- Reported speech in Albanian is more movable, in the sense that the words can change their place inside the sentence without losing their meaning and this is not the case with English which is much stricter regarding this, especially with reporting verbs. In Albanian, reporting verbs can take the middle position in a reported speech whereas in English not, they come either at the beginning or at the end of the reported speech.

5. Findings

This study was done with the purpose of understanding how reported speech is created in the English and Albanian languages, if reported speech is as different as the languages themselves are with one another. After the analyzes, it is clarified that these differences are minor and not as was thought at the very beginning of this study, it turns out that reported speech has the same meaning in both languages. The role of reported speech is in reporting people's words and making their comprehension as easy as possible. The rules of changing direct speech into reported speech are of the same kind in both languages, changes in tenses, pronouns, form, structure, etc., are present. The examples show that there are much more similarities than differences and that comprehending reported speech in English makes it much easier to use it in Albanian and vice versa.

6. Conclusion

The similarities regarding reported speech between the languages taken into consideration are significantly greater than the differences. The grammatical categories of the Albanian language are very close to those of English and as a result, similar rules and structures of reporting a speech are used. Being two very different languages in many other aspects their similarities regarding reported speech are made obvious in this study. Reported speech in both languages is defined as the speech which transmits the meaning of the original speech of someone else without using the exact words. It turns out that in order to be able to deliver the speech of someone else as clearly and as good as possible, it means not only understanding the meaning of the words spoken or written but much more.

It is necessary to have knowledge regarding many other features of grammar within a sentence for the speech to be reported correctly, because reporting a direct speech influences various other grammar features. It is important to learn how tenses work in both languages (in this case English and Albanian), then when presenting a reported speech, to be aware of the changes of tenses that happen during this process, the change of pronouns, possessive adjectives, adverbs of time, modals etc. In addition, it is found out that these changes have exceptions when they appear in different types of sentences such as in statements, commands and questions. Apart from the changes that occur in the lexical and the grammatical part, there are various changes that happen in the stylistic part, such as: the omitting of quotation marks, the loss of exclamations which results in the loss of the emotional color in the reported speech etc. In both languages reported speech lacks the expression of emotions because the sentence undergoes changes, many words are omitted or replaced by different words of a more formal character.

Considering all the above analyzes and findings, it can be concluded that comprehending reported speech but also other grammatical and lexical features in one language plays an important role in the acquisition of reported speech in the second language, more specifically between the English and Albanian language where reported speech turns out to be highly similar.

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