



SAY or TELL

Don't say: I am going to tell what is on my mind. Please say me more about the situation.

Say: I am going to **say** what is on my mind. Please **tell** me more about the situation.

! Use **say** when you report person's words, express feelings but **say** never has person as the object so *say him* is always wrong.

! Use **tell** to explain facts, give instructions or tell a story; always has a person in object *I want to tell **you** something.*

Say and Tell in Everyday Conversation



Thomas: Hello Helen, what's up? How is your English coming along?

Helena: I didn't understand, **what did you say**? Could you **speak** more slowly, please?

Thomas: Sure thing! How are your English lessons going?

Helena: Our lessons are fun. Our teacher always **talks about** very interesting things and always **tells** excellent **jokes**. But I wasn't **told about** the homework and so I was the only one who didn't turn it in.

Thomas: I am sorry to hear that. **Let's talk**, you and I. There is something very important to discuss...

VOCABULARY BUILDING



It says it all – to mluví za vše

You don't say – nepovídej, vážně?

That is to say – to jest, a to, tedy, totiž,

I wouldn't say no to (something). – Nepohrdnu (čím).

As far as I can tell – pokud vím

You never can tell – nikdy nevíš (jak to bude)

I'll tell you what,... – Víš co, podívej...

I told you so – Já jsem ti to říkal

QUIZ: TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Use the correct form of **say** or **tell**:



1. She always _____ truth.
 2. Paul _____, 'I will come next week.'
 3. They _____ nothing.
 4. I _____ her that I'd go with her.
 5. Don't _____ lies.
 6. Hannah _____ me that she would go home.
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KEY: 1. tells, 2. said, 3. said, 4. told, 5. tell, 6. told