

# Say - Tell – Speak (1)

You generally can:

**say (said, said)** something to someone (Please say *hello* to your mom.)

**tell (told, told)** someone something (Please tell your mom *hello*.)

**speak (spoke, spoken)** to someone (I have to speak to my teacher about the test.)

**\*\*speak and talk are both used the same way: talk to someone**

Special cases:

\* What did someone **say** to/about someone? / What did someone **tell** someone?

\* **tell** a lie, a secret, a story, a joke etc.

*Fill in the blank spaces with the correct form of say, tell or speak:*

1. Could you \_\_\_\_\_ to the neighbors about their noisy dog? I keep \_\_\_\_\_ them to keep it quiet, but it never stops barking!
2. Tina's stylist \_\_\_\_\_ her she looked good with blue hair, but I \_\_\_\_\_ it looks terrible.
3. Tina's stylist \_\_\_\_\_ she looked good with blue hair, but I \_\_\_\_\_ her it looks terrible.
4. The President came and \_\_\_\_\_ to the students at our school. He \_\_\_\_\_ all kids should help protect the environment, and \_\_\_\_\_ us to keep working hard.
5. Bill always \_\_\_\_\_ he'll be on time, but he never is. I often \_\_\_\_\_ him that he's going to get fired if he keeps being late.
6. Kelly \_\_\_\_\_ me to \_\_\_\_\_ you that she'll be arriving on the 10:30 flight.
7. What did you \_\_\_\_\_ to the teacher that made her cry?
8. Could you \_\_\_\_\_ your mom I \_\_\_\_\_ hello (to her)?
9. Could you \_\_\_\_\_ everyone at the party that I \_\_\_\_\_ I'm sorry I couldn't go?
10. Tom \_\_\_\_\_ that I cheated on the test, but when I \_\_\_\_\_ to our teacher, she \_\_\_\_\_ me she knew that I didn't do it.
11. The earthquake hit while I was \_\_\_\_\_ to Kim on the phone.
12. I really need to \_\_\_\_\_ to Robert about this continuing problem in the office.
13. What did I \_\_\_\_\_ you about running with scissors? Don't do it!! I've \_\_\_\_\_ it a thousand times!
14. Matt finally \_\_\_\_\_ that he had stolen the money when our boss \_\_\_\_\_ the staff that she would call the police if no one \_\_\_\_\_ the truth.
15. I was \_\_\_\_\_ to Nancy and she \_\_\_\_\_ me a really big secret. I promised I wouldn't \_\_\_\_\_ anyone her secret.
16. What did Nick \_\_\_\_\_ to the police? Because after he \_\_\_\_\_ to them, they quickly left.
17. What did Nick \_\_\_\_\_ the police? 'Cuz after \_\_\_\_\_ to them, they quickly left.
18. It is said that President Abraham Lincoln never \_\_\_\_\_ a lie.
19. My angry mom \_\_\_\_\_ to us for an hour and \_\_\_\_\_ us to keep our room clean.
20. Ann \_\_\_\_\_ me that she was home last night, but when I \_\_\_\_\_ to Bob, he \_\_\_\_\_ that she went dancing. I think she didn't want him to \_\_\_\_\_ me that.