Uncertainty in Reported Speech

Many words and phrases act like markers in a text to indicate to readers that the author is less than certain about what is being said. Collectively, these words and phrases that indicate uncertainty are called **uncertainty qualifiers**.

Uncertainty qualifiers are not the only way that an author can indicate uncertainty in a text, however. Uncertainty is also indicated when an author attributes information to someone else (reported speech). When considering how much confidence to have in reported speech, consider:

- Whose speech is being reported
- That individual's official role
- The nature of the declaration; is it official, or is it someone's personal opinion?

DIRECTIONS: Find the reported speech in the assigned text. Answer the questions.

Whose speech is being reported?	
What is that person's official role?	
What is the nature of the declaration?	

How much confidence do you have in this reported speech? Explain.

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