# 8E Word Skills

## Verb patterns: reporting verbs

*I can use a variety of reporting verbs correctly.*

**1 Circle the correct verbs to complete the sentences.**

1 'OK. I'll feed your cat while you're away,' she ___.
**a** advised **b** agreed **c** encouraged

2 'You really must stay for dinner,' he ___.
**a** asked **b** admitted **c** insisted

3 'I'll definitely be there to meet you at the airport,' she ___.
**a** begged **b** promised **c** suggested

4 'It's dangerous to walk around that part of town at night,' he ___.
**a** denied **b** offered **c** warned

5 'Is the café still open at this time?' she ___.
**a** begged **b** suggested **c** wondered

6 'I'm the one who broke your laptop,' he ___.
**a** admitted **b** apologised **c** persuaded

7 'I could lend you some money,' he ___.
**a** denied **b** proposed **c** wondered

8 'You'd better say sorry,' she ___.
**a** advised **b** apologised **c** persuaded

**2 Circle the correct reporting verb. Then complete the sentences with the infinitive or *-ing* form of the verbs in brackets.**

1 My parents never **encouraged / suggested** me _____ (sing) when I was younger.

2 Did you **admit / apologise** to your teacher for _____ (miss) the class?

3 My Spanish friends **mentioned / told** _____ (come) to visit us this summer.

4 Why are you **accusing / blaming** me of _____ (copy) your homework? It isn't true!

5 The President has **denied / refused** _____ (answer) any more questions on this topic.

6 I **begged / offered** her _____ (pay) for our train tickets.

7 They **denied / insisted** _____ (stay) at the party until after midnight.

8 My cousin **encouraged / refused** me _____ (play) a few songs on the piano.

9 Why did you **agree / insist** on _____ (have) the end-of-term party at our house?

10 My parents **begged / refused** my sister not _____ (leave) school at sixteen.

11 My brother finally **admitted / apologised** _____ (tell) everyone my secret.

12 Our next door neighbour **accused / warned** us of _____ (make) too much noise late at night.

**3 USE OF ENGLISH Complete the text with the missing words.**

When I got home, my brother was singing loudly in the kitchen. I asked him [1]_____ to make so much noise, but he insisted [2]_____ singing even louder. I accused him [3]_____ being the worst singer I'd ever heard. Instead of getting cross, he thanked me [4]_____ giving him an idea. Then he went upstairs, smiling. I wondered [5]_____ asking him what he was doing, but I knew he would refuse [6]_____ tell me. Two minutes later, he came downstairs again with a camcorder. He persuaded me [7]_____ video him. 'If I'm that bad, we can make money on YouTube,' he told [8]_____.

**VOCAB BOOST!**

When you learn reporting verbs, it's a good idea to learn the related nouns at the same time. You can also learn what verbs these related nouns usually go with. **Tip:** the most common verbs that go with the related nouns are *give* and *make*.

*agree – make an agreement*

*advise – give some advice*

**4 Use a dictionary to find the nouns related to the verbs below. Write them in the correct category.**

accuse apologise encourage promise suggest warn

| give + | make + |
|---|---|
| | |

**5 Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first. Use the correct form of *give* or *make* and a noun related to the underlined verb.**

1 They <u>warned</u> us about the dangerous cliffs.
They _____ about the dangerous cliffs.

2 He rarely <u>encourages</u> his son.
He rarely _____ his son any _____.

3 She forgave him as soon as he <u>apologised</u> for his behaviour.
She forgave him as soon as he _____ for his behaviour.

4 The police <u>accused</u> him of something serious.
The police _____ a serious _____ against him.

5 Why do you never <u>suggest</u> anything?
Why do you never _____ any _____?



LIVEWORKSHEETS