

Reported speech (part 2)

- ◆ To report **commands** or **instructions** in reported speech, we use the introductory verbs **order** or **tell + sb + (not) to-infinitive**.

e.g. 'Put the gun down!' he said to him.

He **ordered him to put** the gun down.

'Don't look down!' he said to us.

He **told us not to look** down.

'Put the shopping in the kitchen,' she said to her.

She **told her to put** the shopping in the kitchen.

- ◆ To report **requests**, we use the introductory verbs **ask** or **beg + sb + (not) to-infinitive**. The direct sentence usually contains the word 'please'.

e.g. 'Help me, please,' Jean said to Tom.

Jean **asked Tom to help** her.

'Please, please don't call the police,' he said to Colin.

He **begged Colin not to call** the police.

- ◆ To report **suggestions**, we use the introductory verb **suggest + -ing form/that sb (should) + bare infinitive**.

e.g. 'Let's go outside,' I said to them.

'We can/could go outside,' I said to them.

'Shall we go outside?' I said to them.

'How about going outside?' I said to them.



I **suggested going/that we (should) go** outside.

1. Exercise: fill in missing verbs in the correct form.

order, tell, ask, beg, suggest

- 1 'Please visit me in hospital,' Joan said to Colin.
Joan ...*asked*... Colin to visit her in hospital.
- 2 'Let's eat out this evening,' Paul said to her.
Paul eating out that evening.
- 3 'Please, please be careful,' she said to him.
She him to be careful.
- 4 'Don't go near the fire,' Dad said to us.
Dad us not to go near the fire.
- 5 'Be quiet!' the commander said to the troops.
The commander the troops to be quiet.

2. Turn into reported speech:

- 1 The doctor said to the patient, 'Come back to see me again next week.'
...*The doctor told the patient to go back and see him again the following week/the week after.*
- 2 The guard said to the driver, 'Stop!'
.....
- 3 He said, 'Shall we go for a walk?'
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- 4 She said to him, 'Please, please don't leave me!'
.....
- 5 Jenny said to Dave, 'Please help me with this.'
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- 6 She said to him, 'Open the window, please.'
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- 7 Mother said, 'How about going for a drive?'
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- 8 She said, 'Let's eat now.'
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