Different reporting verbs take different grammatical patterns. Some verbs can take more than one pattern.

**Pattern:** verb + noun

| Verbs: | Examples: |
| --- | --- |
| deny | Katie **denied the accusation**. |
| say | When Angie **said the price**, I couldn't believe it! |
| suggest | I **suggest the blue suit** for the wedding. |
| tell (certain phrases) | Why don't you **tell that joke** about the merchant banker? |

**Pattern:** verb + *that* clause

| Verbs: | Examples: |
| --- | --- |
| claim | Katie **claimed (that)** she wasn't a shoplifter. |
| deny | Katie **denied (that)** she was a shoplifter. |
| say | Katie **said (that)** she wasn't a shoplifter. |
| state | Katie **stated (that)** she wasn't a shoplifter. |
| suggest | The police **suggested (that)** Katie empty her pockets. |

**Pattern:** verb + *-ing*

| Verbs: | Examples: |
| --- | --- |
| deny | Katie **denied stealing** the chocolate biscuits. |
| suggest | The police **suggested checking** the security video. |

**Pattern:** verb + full infinitive

| Verbs: | Examples: |
| --- | --- |
| agree | Katie **agreed to empty** her pockets. |
| claim | Katie **claimed to be** innocent. |
| refuse | The police **refused to believe** Katie. |

**Pattern:** verb + someone + full infinitive

| Verbs: | Examples: |
| --- | --- |
| ask | The police **asked Katie to empty** her pockets. |
| beg | Katie **begged the policewoman to believe** her. |
| command | The judge **commanded Katie to replace** the biscuits. |
| order | The judge **ordered Katie to replace** the biscuits. |
| tell | The judge **told Katie** never **to steal** again. |

**Pattern:** verb ( + to + someone) + for + *-ing*

| Verb: | Example: |
| --- | --- |
| apologise | Katie **apologised (to everyone) for causing** so much trouble. |

**Pattern:** verb + someone + noun

| Verbs: | Examples: |
| --- | --- |
| ask | The judge **asked Katie a question**. |
| tell (certain phrases) | Katie **told the judge the truth**. |