REPORTING VERBS

When reporting someone's words we usually move on tense further into the past. So ***simple present*** becomes ***simple past***, ***simple past*** becomes ***past perfect***, etc.

- *"Jill doesn't like you."* ➤Paul told me that Jill **didn't like** me.
- *"I saw you at the airport yesterday."* ➤Linda said that she **had seen** me at the airport the day before.

a) The verbs **"say"** and **"tell"** are common reporting verbs and follow the structure:

(that) + subject + verb(s)

➤ ***admit, announce, answer, claim, complain, confess, declare, explain, inform, insist, mention, promise, reply, state, suggest...***

b) Promises, orders, offers, requests, advice, suggestions ... are often reported using **to infinitive**:

- *"Shall I call a taxi?"* ➤ She **offered to call** a taxi.
- *"Don't make so much noise."* ➤ The teacher **asked** me **not to make** so much noise.

➤ ***agree, advise, ask, beg, decide, demand, invite, offer, order, promise, refuse, remind, tell, threaten, warn...***

c) Some verbs are followed by **–ing**:

- "Sorry I'm late." ➤ Paul **apologised for being** late.
- "Sorry I was late." ➤ Paul **apologised for having been** late.

➤ ***accuse of, admit (to), confess to, congratulated for, deny, insist on, regret, thank for ...***

d) The special use of **"suggest"** - *"Why not go out to eat something?"*

Michael suggested
- ➤ **(that) we should go** out to eat something. **(subject + should + infinitive)**
- ➤ **(that) we went** out to eat something. **(subject + past)**
- ➤ **going** out to eat something. **(-ing)**

REPORT the following as indicated below.



1. "You started the fire, didn't you?"



2. "I won't be late again."



5. "Congrats! You've won the 1st price."

4. "Let me help you with these."



3. "Just buy a new car."



1. He accused me of...

2. He promised himself...

3. His friend suggested...

4. The man offered...

5. He congratulated me for...