

REPORTING VERBS

BRIEF GUIDANCE: Read it before completing the exercises below.

8B

reporting verbs

structures after reporting verbs

- 1 Jack offered to drive me to the airport. (4)39))
I promised not to tell anybody.
- 2 The doctor advised me to have a rest.
I persuaded my sister not to go out with George.
- 3 I apologized for being so late.
The police accused Karl of stealing the car.

To report what other people have said, you can use *say* or a specific verb, e.g. 'I'll drive you to the airport.'

Jack said he would drive me to the airport.

Jack offered to drive me to the airport.

- After specific reporting verbs, there are one to three different grammatical patterns (see chart on the right)
- In negative sentences, use the negative infinitive (*not to do*) or the negative gerund (*not doing*), e.g. *He reminded me not to be late. She regretted not going to the party.*

1 GRAMMAR reporting verbs

- a Complete with the gerund or the infinitive of the verb in brackets.

- 1 The girl refused to dance with my friend. (dance)
- 2 My husband denied _____ the last cream cake. (eat)
- 3 My parents told me _____ late. (not be)
- 4 The tour guide recommended _____ the Picasso Museum. (visit)
- 5 I agreed _____ in front of my neighbour's garage. (not park)
- 6 The police accused him of _____ them the truth. (not tell)
- 7 My boyfriend asked me _____ him to the station. (take)
- 8 The teacher threatened _____ them extra homework if they didn't stop talking. (give)
- 9 Jane promised _____ my book the next day. (return)
- 10 The woman admitted _____ the man's watch. (steal)

GRAMMAR BANK

1 + to + infinitive	agree refuse threaten	offer promise	(not) to do something
2 + person + to + infinitive	advise ask convince encourage invite	persuade remind tell warn	somebody (not) to do something
3 + -ing form	apologize (to sb) for insist on accuse sb of recommend admit regret blame sb for suggest deny		(not) doing something

Verbs that use a that clause
With *agree*, *admit*, *deny*, *promise*, *regret*, you can also use *that* + clause.
Leo admitted stealing the watch.
Leo admitted that he had stolen the watch.

- b Report the direct speech using one of the reporting verbs from the box.

advise apologize insist invite
offer remind suggest warn

- 1 'Don't forget to sign the documents,' my boss told me.
My boss reminded me to sign the documents.
- 2 'I really don't think you should leave your job,' Jack's friend told him.
Jack's friend _____ his job.
- 3 'Why don't we go for a walk?' said Katie.
Katie _____ for a walk.
- 4 'Shall I make the lunch?' her husband said.
Her husband _____ the lunch.
- 5 'Don't park in this street,' the man said to us.
The man _____ there.
- 6 'I'm sorry I was so rude,' I said.
I _____ so rude.
- 7 'Would you like to have dinner with me?' Andy asked Sarah.
Andy _____ with him.
- 8 'I'm going with you to the doctor's,' Alice said to me.
Alice _____ to the doctor's with me.

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Chicken fight

By Sam Urban



Two chefs got into a fight last week after Andrew Palmer ¹accused Geoff Lewis of stealing one of his recipes and publishing it in a local newspaper.

Andrew Palmer, 28, claimed that he had invented the dish of cold chicken with strawberry mayonnaise at his Kent gastropub, The King's Head. However, restaurant chef Geoff Lewis, 30, who writes a weekly newspaper column on cooking, ²denied copying the recipe and said the dish was his own creation.

So, the local newspaper, the *Sidcup Echo*, ³invited both chefs to prepare the dish at their offices to see whose recipe it really was. They ⁴agreed to come, and the 'cook-off' took place yesterday. Newspaper staff tried both dishes and unanimously declared Andrew's to be the winner. Geoff's dish was said to be 'lacking in flavour'. He later ⁵admitted having seen the dish on the menu at Andrew's pub and he has ⁶offered to publish an apology in the following issue of the *Echo*. 'In any case,' he said later, 'I've decided that it works better with raspberries.'

C. Read the article called '*Chicken Fight*' and match the highlighted phrases 1-6 in the text with the direct speech below.

A _____ 'I'll say sorry.'

B _____ 'It's not true.'

C _____ 'OK. I did see it there.'

D _____ 'Would you like to make it for us?'

E _____ 'OK, we'll do it.'

F _____ 'You stole it.'