

Reporting verbs

Complete the sentences with two to five words, including the word in bold.

Reporting verbs + gerunds

* admit (to) + gerund	'Yes, I stole the plans.' 'You lied to me.'	He admitted (to) stealing/having stolen the plans. She accused me of lying/having lied to her.
* boast about/of	'I'm sorry I shouted at you.'	He apologised for shouting/having shouted at me.
complain to sb of	'I'm the cleverest of all.'	He boasted of/about being the cleverest of all.
deny	'I have a headache.'	She complained to me of having a headache.
* insist on	'I didn't take your bag.'	He denied taking/having taken my bag.
suggest	'You must do your work.'	She insisted on me/my doing my work.
	'Let's visit Jane.'	She suggested visiting Jane.

Reporting verbs + to infinitive

Introductory verb	direct speech	reported speech
agree + to-inf	'Yes, I'll give you a lift.'	She agreed to give me a lift.
offer	'Shall I carry the boxes?'	He offered to carry the boxes.
promise	'I promise I'll help you.'	He promised to help me.
refuse	'No, I won't buy you a car.'	She refused to buy me a car.
* threaten	'Stop talking or I'll send you out.'	He threatened to send me out if I didn't stop talking.
* advise + sb + to-inf	'You should see a doctor.'	He advised me to see a doctor.
ask	'Could you do something for me?'	She asked me to do something for her.
beg	'Please, please call the police.'	She begged me to call the police.
command	'Drop your weapons!'	He commanded them to drop their weapons.
invite	'Will you come to my party?'	She invited me to (go to) her party.
order	'Get out of the house!'	She ordered me to get out of the house.
* remind	'Don't forget to write to Paul.'	She reminded me to write to Paul.
* warn	'Don't go near the oven.'	She warned me not to go near the oven.

Reporting verbs + that + clause

complain + that	'You're always late.'	She complained that I was always late.
deny	'I didn't take the money.'	She denied that she had taken the money.
explain	'It's a difficult situation.'	He explained that it was a difficult situation.
exclaim/remark	'What a beautiful baby he is!'	She exclaimed/remarked that he was a beautiful baby.
promise	'I promise I'll call you.'	She promised that she would call me.
suggest	'You'd better go home.'	He suggested that I (should) go home.

The reporting verbs *realise*, *think*, *wonder* and *know* have the same pattern as *say* and *ask* (see Reported speech).
She realised (that) she had forgotten to switch off her computer.
They knew (that) she was coming to visit at the weekend.
Patrick wondered if they read his blog.

- 'I will fire you if you arrive late again,' he said to her.
threatened He ... **threatened to fire** ... her if she arrived late again.
- 'Why don't we buy Emma a present?' Jane said.
should Jane Emma a present.
- 'You ate my bar of chocolate!' Sarah said to Mike.
accused Sarah her bar of chocolate.
- 'I borrowed your favourite jumper,' David said.
admitted David my favourite jumper.
- 'Don't forget to lock all the doors and windows,' Mum said to me.
reminded Mum all the doors and windows.
- 'I didn't leave the garden gate open!' she said.
denied She the garden gate open.
- 'Let's meet for lunch,' he said.
meeting He for lunch.
- 'No, I won't do your homework for you,' Danny said.
refused Danny for me.
- 'You must come to the theatre with me,' said Jane.
on Jane to the theatre with her.
- 'I'm sorry I broke your favourite cup,' said Sam.
for Sam my favourite cup.
- 'Will you come to dinner with me?' said Paul.
invited Paul to dinner with him.
- 'What a beautiful dress!' said Julie.
exclaimed Julie a beautiful dress.
- 'I feel very tired,' she said to me.
feeling She very tired.
- 'I promise I'll visit you next week,' he said to her.
promised He next week.