

**UNIT 1 –  
CONNECT  
Reported  
Speech**

## Reporting Verbs

When using reported speech, most students learn to use "say" and "tell". **Examples:**

*John told me he was going to stay late at work. // Peter said he wanted to visit his parents that weekend.*

These forms are perfectly correct for reporting what others have said. However, there are a number of other reporting verbs which can more accurately describe what someone has said. These verbs take a variety of structures. The following list gives you reporting verbs in various categories based on sentence structure. Notice that a number of verbs can take more than one form.

verb + object + TO + infinitive	verb + TO + infinitive	Verb + (that) + subject ...	verb + gerund	verb + object + preposition + gerund	verb + preposition + gerund
<b>Tell</b> (decir) <b>Advise</b> (aconsejar) <b>Ask</b> (pedir) <b>Encourage</b> (animar) <b>Invite</b> (invitar) <b>Order</b> (ordenar/mandar) <b>Persuade</b> (convencer) <b>Remind</b> (recordar) <b>Warn</b> (advertir)	<b>Agree</b> (acceder) <b>Decide</b> (decider) <b>Offer</b> (ofrecer) <b>Promise</b> (prometer) <b>Refuse</b> (rechazar) <b>Threaten</b> (amenazar)	<b>Say</b> (decir) <b>Add</b> (añadir) <b>Admit</b> (admitir) <b>Agree</b> * (acceder) <b>Decide</b> * (decider) <b>Declare</b> (manifestar) <b>Deny</b> * (de-negar) <b>Explain</b> (explicar) <b>Insist</b> * (insistir) <b>Promise</b> * (prometer) <b>Recommend</b> * (recomendar) <b>Reply</b> (responder) <b>Reveal</b> (desvelar) <b>Suggest</b> * (sugerir)	<b>Deny</b> (de-negar) <b>Recommend</b> * (recomendar) <b>Suggest</b> * (sugerir)	<b>Accuse (of)</b> (acusar) <b>Blame</b> (culpar) <b>Congratulate (on)</b> (felicitar)	<b>Apologize (for)</b> (disculpar) <b>Insist (on)</b> (insistir)
<b>Examples:</b>	<b>Examples:</b>	<b>Examples:</b>	<b>Examples:</b>	<b>Examples:</b>	<b>Examples:</b>
- <i>Tom advised me to go home early.</i>	- <i>They agreed to meet on Friday.</i>	- <i>Tom admitted (that) he had tried to leave early.</i>	- <i>He denied having anything to do with her.</i>	- <i>They accused the boys of cheating on the exam.</i>	- <i>He apologized for being late.</i>
- <i>Jack encouraged me to look for a new job</i>	- <i>She offered to give him a lift to work.</i>	- <i>She agreed (that) we needed to reconsider our plans.</i>	- <i>They recommended taking the bus.</i>	- <i>He accused me of taking the money.</i>	- <i>They apologized for not coming.</i>
- <i>They invited all their friends to attend the presentation.</i>	- <i>My brother refused to take no for an answer.</i>	- <i>Sarah decided (that) the house needed cleaning.</i>	- <i>Ken suggested studying early in the morning.</i>	- <i>She blamed her husband for missing the train.</i>	- <i>She insisted on doing the washing up.</i>
- <i>She reminded me to telephone my mother.</i>		- <i>They recommended (that) we take the bus.</i>		- <i>They congratulated me on passing all my exams.</i>	- <i>He insisted on having dinner.</i>

# REPORTING VERBS – EXAMPLES

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## + TO + INFINITIVE

- \*AGREE: They **agreed to lend** him the money.
- \*CLAIM: They **claim to be** the best in the market.
- OFFER: She **offered to help**.
- \*PROMISE: You **promised to come** with us.
- REFUSE: He **refused to answer** any questions.
- SWEAR: She **swore to serve** her country.
- THREATEN: They **threatened to kill** me.

## + THAT + CLAUSE

- \*ADMIT: He **admitted (that)** it was his fault.
- \*AGREE: I **agree (that)** it's going to be difficult.
- ANSWER: She **answered (that)** she was OK.
- \*CLAIM: They **claim (that)** they are innocent.
- \*COMPLAIN: He **complains (that)** he has too much work.
- \*CONFESS: He **confessed (that)** he was scared.
- \*DENY: They **deny (that)** they had any involvement.
- EXPLAIN: She **explained (that)** new facts had emerged.
- \*INSIST: I **insisted (that)** we needed a break.
- \*PROMISE: You **promised (that)** you'd be there.
- \*REGRET: I **regret (that)** I didn't help him.
- SAY: John **said (that)** he wouldn't do it again.
- \*SUGGEST: She **suggested (that)** I should stay until May.

## + PERSON + TO + INFINITIVE

- ADVISE: He **advised me to change** my diet.
- ASK: They **asked him to resign**.
- BEG: He **begged me to forgive** him.
- CONVINCE: He **convinced me to take** the job.
- ENCOURAGE: We **encouraged her to continue**.
- FORBID: They **forbade me to go out**.
- INVITE: She **invited us to be** at the meeting.
- ORDER: The judge **ordered him to sit down**.
- PERSUADE: She **persuaded me to sign up**.
- RECOMMEND: I **recommend you to go**.
- REMIND: Can you **remind me to lock** the door?
- TELL: Nobody **told me to be quiet**.
- WARN: He **warned us not to drink** the water.

## + (PREPOSITION) + -ING

- ACCUSE SB OF: They **accused me of cheating**.
- \*ADMIT: She **admitted making** a mistake.
- APOLOGISE (TO SB) FOR: He **apologised (to her) for not calling**.
- BLAME: I don't **blame you for getting** angry.
- \*COMPLAIN ABOUT: He **complained about being** insulted.
- \*CONFESS TO: I **confessed to murdering** him.
- \*DENY: They **denied doing** anything wrong.
- \*INSIST ON: She **insisted on calling** a taxi.
- \*RECOMMEND: She **recommended taking** a taxi.
- \*REGRET: I **regret not paying** more attention.
- \*SUGGEST: I **suggest doing** some research first.