

Reporting verbs

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Compare "I will not go", he said.

WITH SAY

WITH A
REPORTING VERB

He said that he would not go.

He **refused** to go.

The reporting verb in this sentence carries the information of what the person did, which is REFUSE.

Reporting Verbs

ADVISE

I THINK YOU SHOULD APPLY FOR THE JOB

He advised me to apply for the job.

Verb + object + to + infinitive

Can you give an example of some advice you have received?

APOLOGISE

"I'M LATE", HE SAID TO THE PROFESSOR.

She apologised (to the professor) for being late.

Apologise (to object) + FOR + ING

Can you make a sentence now?

INVITE

COME AND JOIN MY FAMILY AT CHRISTMAS.

He invited me to celebrate Christmas with his family.

Verb + object + to + infinitive

Can you think of an invitation you have made or received recently?

OFFER

I WILL HELP YOU.

He offered to help me.

Verb + to + infinitive + object

Think of a situation when you offered to help someone.

Reporting Verbs

REMIND

REMEMBER TO CALL THE DOCTOR.

I reminded her to call the doctor.

Verb + object + to + infinitive

Have you reminded someone to do something this week?

SUGGEST

LET'S MEET OUTDOORS.

We suggested meeting outdoors.

We suggested that we meet/met/should/could meet outdoors.

Verb + gerund // Verb + that + clause Can you give an example of something you have suggested recently?

DENY

I DIDN'T DO IT.

She denied doing it (or having done it).

Verb + gerund + object

Think of a personal situation in which you denied something.

Reporting Verbs

Other structures

• THREATEN + to + infinitive

He threatened to tell everyone.

• WARN + object + against + ing

He warned me against walking in that area.

Also: verb + object + (not) to + infinitive

He warned me not to walk in that area.

Also: verb + object + that + clause

He warned me that I shouldn't walk in that area

ADMIT + (to) + gerund

He admitted (to) stealing the money.

Also: that + clause:

He admitted that he had stolen the money

ACCUSE + object + OF + gerund

She accused me of revealing or having revealed the information.

RECOMMEND + object + to + infinitive

She recommended me to read the book in French.

COMPLAIN + that + clause

They **complained that** they hadn't been informed.

• BEG + object + (not) to + infinitive

I begged him to tell me the truth.

EXCLAIM + that + clause

He exclaimed that it wasn't his fault.

INFORM + object + OF/ABOUT something

She informed me of the new conditions.

AGREE + to + infinitive

I agreed to do it.

NOTE:

Some of these verbs have several structures apart from what is shown here. For more information, check a good monolingual dictionary.

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VERB + OBJECT + INFINITIVE WITH TO PERSUADE SB TO DO SOMETHING

VERB + INFINITIVE WITH TOREFUSE
PROMISE TO DO SOMETHING