

[Home](#) > [English Grammar](#) > Reporting verbs

# Reporting verbs

On this page: [Form and meaning](#) [Teaching ideas](#)

## Form & meaning

Reporting verbs are used to report what someone said more accurately than using [say & tell](#).

### 1. verb + infinitive

*agree, decide, offer, promise, refuse, threaten*

- They **agreed to meet** on Friday.
- He **refused to take** his coat off.

### 2. verb + object + infinitive

*advise, encourage, invite, remind, warn*

- Tom **advised me to go** home early.
- She **reminded me to telephone** my mother.

### 3. verb + gerund

*deny, recommend, suggest*

- They **recommended taking** the bus.
- She **suggested meeting** a little earlier.

### 4. verb + object + preposition

*accuse, blame, congratulate*

- He **accused me of taking** the money.
- They **congratulated me on passing** all my exams.

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## 5. verb + preposition + gerund

*apologise, insist*

- They **apologised for not coming**.
- He **insisted on having** dinner.

## 6. verb + subject + verb

*admit, agree, decide, deny, explain, insist, promise, recommend, suggest*

- Sarah **decided** (that) the house needed cleaning.
- They **recommended** (that) we take the bus.

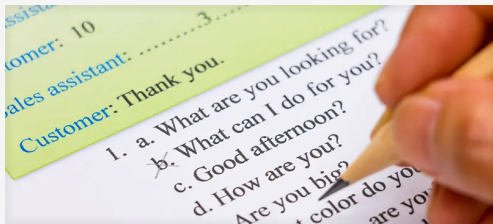
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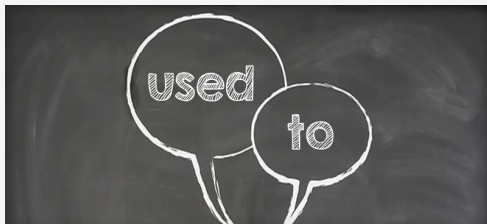
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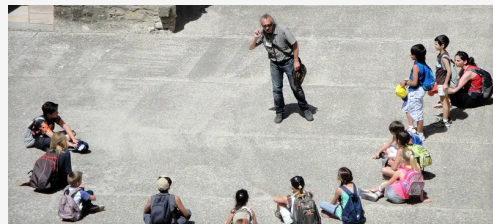
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## 5 teaching ideas and comments



**Begem Tonyali**

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After having introduced the basic reporting verbs: ask, say and tell, I ask my students to write about 10 personal questions they will be able to ask me. Students love asking personal questions to their teachers! I put the questions on the board and then divide the class into 2

groups and make the first group leave and wait outside. Students from the first group take turns asking me their prepared questions and write down my answers.

Now, they leave and the second group does the same thing. However, what they do not know is that I am honest with one group and give correct answers, but lie to the other. It's a good idea not to tell them beforehand.

When the second group is ready I ask the group outside to come in and tell the students to pair off as 1st and 2nd group partners.

For example, one student says: "I asked the teacher how old she was and she told me she was 16." Then the other student says: "I asked the same question, but she told me she was 36." etc... until all the questions are reported.

They have to pay attention to the usage of the reporting verbs and have fun finding out which group the teacher lied to!



**Joy**

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Love this idea! Thank you very much!



**Ali Yassin**

[Reply](#)

Why reporting verb is not part of grammar.. Or partial of it..



**Antares**

[Reply](#)

Today i've studied many news topics and how use in my gramar like:

The reporting verbs

The reported speech

The wish and if only

and

So and such



**Gisa Fernanda SC**

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These two lessons have been so cool, I was finally able to correctly understand the forms of reporting verbs and in which cases so and such are used.

Thank you:)

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