

Verb patterns: reporting verbs

I can use a variety of reporting verbs correctly.

1 Circle the correct verbs to complete the sentences.

- 'OK. I'll feed your cat while you're away,' she ____ .
a advised b agreed c encouraged
- 'You really must stay for dinner,' he ____ .
a asked b admitted c insisted
- 'I'll definitely be there to meet you at the airport,' she ____ .
a begged b promised c suggested
- 'It's dangerous to walk around that part of town at night,' he ____ .
a denied b offered c warned
- 'Is the café still open at this time?' she ____ .
a begged b suggested c wondered
- 'I'm the one who broke your laptop,' he ____ .
a admitted b apologised c persuaded
- 'I could lend you some money,' he ____ .
a denied b proposed c wondered
- 'You'd better say sorry,' she ____ .
a advised b apologised c persuaded

2 Circle the correct reporting verb. Then complete the sentences with the infinitive or -ing form of the verbs in brackets.

- My parents never **encouraged** / **suggested** me _____ (sing) when I was younger.
- Did you **admit** / **apologise** to your teacher for _____ (miss) the class?
- My Spanish friends **mentioned** / **told** _____ (come) to visit us this summer.
- Why are you **accusing** / **blaming** me of _____ (copy) your homework? It isn't true!
- The President has **denied** / **refused** _____ (answer) any more questions on this topic.
- I **begged** / **offered** her _____ (pay) for our train tickets.
- They **denied** / **insisted** _____ (stay) at the party until after midnight.
- My cousin **encouraged** / **refused** me _____ (play) a few songs on the piano.
- Why did you **agree** / **insist** on _____ (have) the end-of-term party at our house?
- My parents **begged** / **refused** my sister not _____ (leave) school at sixteen.
- My brother finally **admitted** / **apologised** _____ (tell) everyone my secret.
- Our next door neighbour **accused** / **warned** us of _____ (make) too much noise late at night.

3 USE OF ENGLISH Complete the text with the missing words.

When I got home, my brother was singing loudly in the kitchen. I asked him ¹ _____ to make so much noise, but he insisted ² _____ singing even louder. I accused him ³ _____ being the worst singer I'd ever heard. Instead of getting cross, he thanked me ⁴ _____ giving him an idea. Then he went upstairs, smiling. I wondered ⁵ _____ asking him what he was doing, but I knew he would refuse ⁶ _____ tell me. Two minutes later, he came downstairs again with a camcorder. He persuaded me ⁷ _____ video him. 'If I'm that bad, we can make money on YouTube,' he told ⁸ _____ .

VOCAB BOOST!

When you learn reporting verbs, it's a good idea to learn the related nouns at the same time. You can also learn what verbs these related nouns usually go with. **Tip:** the most common verbs that go with the related nouns are *give* and *make*.

agree – make an agreement

advise – give some advice

4 Use a dictionary to find the nouns related to the verbs below. Write them in the correct category.

accuse apologise encourage promise suggest warn

give +	make +

5 Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first. Use the correct form of *give* or *make* and a noun related to the underlined verb.

- They warned us about the dangerous cliffs.
They _____ about the dangerous cliffs.
- He rarely encourages his son.
He rarely _____ his son any _____ .
- She forgave him as soon as he apologised for his behaviour.
She forgave him as soon as he _____ for his behaviour.
- The police accused him of something serious.
The police _____ a serious _____ against him.
- Why do you never suggest anything?
Why do you never _____ any _____ ?