

Basics. Reporting Verbs: Gerunds, Infinitives, and That-Clauses

Medium

B1 | Intermediate

Clause

Gerund

Indirect speech

Infinitive

Negation

Object

Past tense

Verb

Collocations

1. Choose the best verbs to complete the intergalactic incident report about a clumsy alien trying to fit in on Earth.

The alien _____ for accidentally vaporizing the mayor's car.

He _____ not to use his laser eyes on Earth again.

The police _____ him that parking his spaceship on the sidewalk was strictly illegal.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) suggested
- B) apologized
- C) promised

Blank 2

- A) warned
- B) apologized
- C) promised

Blank 3

- A) suggested
- B) warned
- C) apologized

2. Help the local sheriff document a rather unusual witness statement about a UFO sighting.

Select ALL the reporting verbs that correctly complete the sentence.

The frantic farmer _____ that a glowing saucer had landed in his cornfield.

Select all that apply.

- A) claimed
- B) explained
- C) insisted
- D) told
- E) asked

3. Help the exhausted camper complete their diary entry about a disastrous trip by choosing the correct reporting verbs.

When our tent collapsed in the pouring rain, Leo _____ to fix it himself.

However, Mia _____ waiting in the car until the storm passed.

In the end, the park ranger _____ us to pack up and go home.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) suggested
- B) offered
- C) advised

Blank 2

- A) told
- B) suggested
- C) asked

Blank 3

- A) said
- B) suggested
- C) advised

4. Choose the correct phrase to describe the stubborn cat's dramatic behavior.

Even though we offered him a bowl of premium tuna, Mr. Whiskers refused _____ down from the top of the refrigerator.

Select one.

- A) coming
- B) to come
- C) came
- D) come

5. Complete this text message about a fierce roommate dispute over the last slice of pepperoni pizza.

Select ALL the reporting verbs that grammatically fit the sentence.

When confronted about the missing pizza, Dave _____ eating the last slice.

Select all that apply.

- A) admitted
- B) denied
- C) refused
- D) promised
- E) offered

6. Complete the museum tour guide's very important safety instruction.

The nervous tour guide warned the school children _____ the priceless dinosaur bones.

Select one.

- A) not to touch
- B) to not touching
- C) don't touch
- D) not touching

7. Help the gym manager complete his incident report about a personal trainer's interaction with a very unmotivated client.

Select ALL the reporting verbs that correctly fit the sentence structure.

The exhausted trainer _____ the client to actually lift the weights, not just stare at them.

Select all that apply.

- A) told
- B) encouraged
- C) advised
- D) suggested
- E) said

8. Help resolve this classic roommate dispute by choosing the correct reporting verbs to complete the story.

My roommate _____ making a weekly cleaning schedule so the apartment would stay tidy. She _____ to wash the dishes every evening after dinner. However, she _____ me to take out the trash and do all the vacuuming!

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) offered
- B) suggested
- C) told

Blank 2

- A) suggested
- B) promised
- C) invited

Blank 3

- A) explained
- B) said
- C) told

9. Complete the teenager's text message to their best friend about a chaotic family dinner. Select the correct option for each blank.

You won't believe what happened! Mom _____ us that she had accidentally shrunk Dad's favorite sweater in the wash.

Dad _____ her if she was joking.

Then, my little brother _____ that the dog was eating the roast beef!

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) said
- B) told
- C) asked

Blank 2

- A) told
- B) asked
- C) said

Blank 3

- A) told
- B) asked
- C) said

10. Complete the confused farmer's interview with the local news by choosing the correct reporting verb for each gap.

The friendly aliens _____ me if I wanted a quick tour of their glowing spaceship. I _____ that I was much too busy milking the cows right now. Before they flew away, their leader _____ me to keep the visit a secret from the neighbors.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) explained
- B) asked
- C) warned

Blank 2

- A) told
- B) invited
- C) said

Blank 3

- A) said
- B) wondered
- C) told

11. Help the hungry student complete their diary entry about a culinary crime.

When confronted about the missing pepperoni slice, my roommate Dave completely denied _____ it.

Select one.

- A) to eat
- B) eating
- C) ate
- D) eat

12. Read the restaurant review and choose the correct reporting verbs to complete the customer's story about a very clumsy waiter.

First, the waiter _____ for spilling hot tomato soup all over my favorite shirt. He quickly _____ to bring me a free slice of chocolate cake to make up for the mess. However, the manager later _____ that the poor guy was actually on his very first day of work.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) denied
- B) apologized
- C) offered

Blank 2

- A) suggested
- B) offered
- C) admitted

Blank 3

- A) refused
- B) apologized
- C) admitted