Reporting Verbs Worksheet: Advise, Deny, Accuse, Suggest

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NAME

DATE

Remember

Form	Example
verb + to infinitive: agree, offer, promise, refuse, threaten	She refused to help.
verb + object + to infinitive: advise, remind, warn, persuade, tell	He warned me not to touch it.
verb + -ing: admit, deny, suggest, recommend	He denied breaking the window.
verb + (object) + preposition + -ing: accuse of, blame for, apologise for, insist on	They accused her of lying.

Typical mistakes

× Learners often say	✓ Say instead
She suggested me to take a taxi.	She suggested taking a taxi. / She suggested that I take a taxi.
He denied to steal the money.	He denied stealing the money.
They accused him for cheating.	They accused him of cheating.

1. Rewrite

Report each sentence with the verb in brackets.

1. ‘I’ll help you move house.’ (offer) → She _____
2. ‘I didn’t break the vase.’ (deny) → He _____
3. ‘You should see a doctor.’ (advise) → She _____
4. ‘You cheated in the exam!’ (accuse) → The teacher _____
5. ‘Let’s eat out tonight.’ (suggest) → Tom _____
6. ‘I won’t sign the contract.’ (refuse) → The client _____
7. ‘Don’t forget to lock the door.’ (remind) → My mum _____
8. ‘I’m sorry I was late.’ (apologise) → He _____

2. Choose

Circle the correct option.

1. She admitted (taking / to take) the money.
2. He promised (calling / to call) every day.
3. They warned us (not to swim / not swimming) there.
4. My boss insisted (on paying / to pay) for lunch.
5. She blamed me (for / of) losing the keys.
6. I recommend (to visit / visiting) the old town.
7. He threatened (to call / calling) the police.
8. She persuaded me (to come / coming) with her.

3. Correct the mistakes

Each sentence has one mistake. Write it correctly.

1. He suggested us to go home.
2. She admitted to steal the bag.
3. They accused me to lie.
4. He apologised to be rude.
5. She refused helping us.
6. My doctor advised me stop smoking.

Writing

Report an argument or a negotiation you witnessed (7 sentences). Use at least six different reporting verbs.

Speaking

- What is the best advice anyone has given you? Report it: ‘My … advised me to…’
- Have you ever been accused of something you didn’t do?
- What did your parents always warn you not to do?
- Tell me about a time someone refused to help you.

Answer key

1. Rewrite: 1 She offered to help me move house. · 2 He denied breaking the vase. · 3 She advised me to see a doctor. · 4 The teacher accused him of cheating in the exam. · 5 Tom suggested eating out tonight. · 6 The client refused to sign the contract. · 7 My mum reminded me to lock the door. · 8 He apologised for being late.

2. Choose: 1 taking · 2 to call · 3 not to swim · 4 on paying · 5 for · 6 visiting · 7 to call · 8 to come

3. Correct the mistakes: 1 He suggested going home. / He suggested that we go home. · 2 She admitted stealing the bag. / She admitted to stealing the bag. · 3 They accused me of lying. · 4 He apologised for being rude. · 5 She refused to help us. · 6 My doctor advised me to stop smoking.

Writing, model answer: Last week there was an argument at the café near my office. A customer accused the waiter of giving him the wrong change. The waiter denied making a mistake. He offered to count the money again. The customer refused to wait and threatened to call the manager. In the end the manager apologised for the confusion and insisted on giving him a free coffee. The customer admitted feeling a bit embarrassed.