

GRAMMAR GUIDE

Other reporting verbs

1a Look at these sentences. Which reporting verbs need a person (like told) and which don't (like said)?

- 1a All the big companies have already started making 3D televisions. And soon they'll be everywhere.
- 1b He **explained** that all the big companies had started making 3D televisions. He **added** that a short time after they would be everywhere.
- 2a They have to adapt.
- 2b He **warned** her that they had to adapt.
- 3a Don't forget that most new blockbusters are in 3D.
- 3b She **reminded** him that most new blockbusters were in 3D.
- 4a It can be an almost magical experience.
- 4b She **claimed** it could be an almost magical experience.

1b What is the meaning of these reporting verbs? → Leo

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2a Complete the sentences with the correct form of these verbs. Use each verb once only.

add admit agree announce claim promise warn

- 1 He admitted that he had once downloaded a film illegally. *(once downloaded)*
- 2 She promised that she would remember to do her homework. *(I will remember)*
- 3 The government announced that there would be general elections the following year. *(there will be)*
- 4 Cinemas and film studios agreed that they needed to do something to get more people watching films. *(We need to do)*
- 5 Film critics warned parents that the film was violent in places. *(the film is U)*
- 6 The film director told them that the film had great special effects and added that it was all in 3D. *(it is all in 3D)*
- 7 The public didn't like it but the actor claimed it had been his best film ever.

2b Rewrite the sentences in 2a in direct speech.

'I once downloaded a film illegally.'

3 Rewrite the sentences in reported speech using these verbs.

admit announce claim complain promise remind warn

- 1 Tom: 'The film was too short.' *complained*
- 2 Andy: 'I'm not very good at remembering film titles.' *had been*
- 3 Danny: 'I'll remember to give you your DVD back.' *admitted*
- 4 U2: 'We're going to record a new album in our studio in Dublin.' *he was*
- 5 Jack: 'I didn't know it was illegal to sell pirate DVDs.' *promised*
- 6 Kate: 'Josh, it's dangerous to sit too close to the screen.' *would*
- 7 Jamie: 'Dave, don't forget. The match starts at 7pm.' *give*

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Other reporting structures

4a Check that you understand the reporting verbs in a-e and write each one in the correct list below.

- a She **suggested** seeing a 3D film.
- b They **apologised** for using their mobile phones in the cinema.
- c I **asked** him to see the film with me.
- d He **refused** to pay the price of the tickets.
- e He **criticised** cinemas for charging too much for cinema tickets.

- 1 verb + infinitive: d, agree, claim, offer, promise
- 2 verb + object + infinitive: c, advise, forbid, instruct, tell, order, invite, remind, warn, recommend
- 3 verb + gerund: a, admit, advise, deny, regret, recommend
- 4 verb + preposition + gerund: b, insist on, object to, confess to
- 5 verb + object + preposition + gerund: e, congratulate somebody on, accuse somebody of, warn somebody against

4b Check that you understand the other reporting verbs in lists 1 to 5 above.

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5 Choose the correct alternative.

- 1 My friend suggested to see/seeing a science-fiction film.
- 2 They apologised for arrive/arriving late.
- 3 They criticised me to watch/for watching too many films.
- 4 We agreed to go/going at 8 o'clock.
- 5 She promised to not tell/not to tell me the end of the film.
- 6 I admitted to like/liking soap operas.
- 7 They refused to buy/buying the tickets.
- 8 She accused me of not know/knowing who the actor was.

6 Rewrite the sentences using reported speech.

- 1 'I'm sorry I didn't wait for you, Emma.' Connor apologised for not waiting.
- 2 'Don't come this way, Ashley, because it's dangerous.' She warned Ashley not to come / against coming / it was.
- 3 'Ella took the book from the library.' She accused Ella of taking.
- 4 'I'll tell you exactly what happened, Mum.' Elizabeth promised to tell her / them exactly.
- 5 'I didn't steal the CD.' Taylor denied stealing.
- 6 'You can't go out with your friends this weekend, William!' William's dad forbade William to go out.
- 7 'OK, we'll help you with your homework tomorrow, Lara.' Cathy and Lucas agreed with Lara to help her.
- 8 'No, I won't do it. I won't let Justine use the computer.' Donna refused to let Justine use the c.



7 Complete the sentences with information about yourself. You must use a verb.

- 1 Once, somebody accused me of stealing.
- 2 I once refused to pay.
- 3 When I was small, my parents insisted on going to bed early.
- 4 Once, I promised to come back.
- 5 To learn English, I suggest talking to others in E.
- 6 Once, somebody congratulated me on dancing so well.
- 7 My parents have always warned me not to get hooked on drugs.
- 8 At school, they always tell you to pay attention.

8 SPEAKING Work with a partner. Compare your sentences. Are any the same?

a partner. Make a list of the advantages seeing films in a cinema instead of at home.

ten and tick any advantages or disadvantages listed in 1.

get a general idea of the text. Don't miss anything. When you listen and confirm your ideas and listen for... STUDY SKILLS ▶ page 147

these statements true (T), false (F) or irrelevant (NG)?

- pointless going to the cinema because you can see the same films at home. *T/F/NG*
- and white films. *T/F/NG*
- modern TVs are fundamental to cinema popularity. *T/F/NG*
- 3D movies will make us change our cinema-going habits. *T/F/NG*
- to ban mobile phones and cameras in cinemas. *T/F/NG*
- that cinemas offer value for money. *T/F/NG*
- the experience of being in a cinema when watching a film. *T/F/NG*