



## Mixed Reported Speech: Reporting Verbs in Context

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

- "I'll definitely be there on time." → He \_\_\_\_ to be there on time.  
a) offered  
b) agreed  
c) promised  
d) threatened
- "If you don't stop, I'll call the police." → She \_\_\_\_ to call the police.  
a) promised  
b) warned  
c) threatened  
d) offered
- "Why don't we go to the beach?" → He \_\_\_\_ going to the beach.  
a) told  
b) insisted on  
c) suggested  
d) agreed to
- "I'm sorry I'm late." → She \_\_\_\_ for being late.  
a) complained  
b) apologized  
c) admitted  
d) explained
- "No, I won't do your homework for you." → She \_\_\_\_ to do my homework for me.  
a) denied  
b) refused  
c) objected to  
d) rejected
- "Be careful — the roads are icy." → He \_\_\_\_ me that the roads were icy.  
a) said  
b) mentioned  
c) warned  
d) reminded
- "OK, I'll work on Saturday." → She \_\_\_\_ to work on Saturday.  
a) suggested  
b) offered  
c) insisted  
d) agreed
- "I really think you should see a doctor." → She \_\_\_\_ seeing a doctor.  
a) recommended  
b) told  
c) insisted on  
d) demanded
- "I didn't take the money!" → He \_\_\_\_ taking the money.  
a) refused  
b) denied  
c) rejected  
d) objected to
- "Let me carry those bags for you." → He \_\_\_\_ to carry the bags for me.  
a) suggested  
b) promised  
c) offered  
d) insisted
- "This hotel is awful — the room is dirty!" → She \_\_\_\_ about the hotel, saying the room was dirty.  
a) mentioned  
b) explained  
c) claimed  
d) complained

12. "You must pay the bill by Friday." → The landlord \_\_\_\_ that we pay the bill by Friday.  
a) agreed  
b) insisted  
c) suggested  
d) recommended
13. "Yes, you're right — I made a mistake." → She \_\_\_\_ making a mistake.  
a) denied  
b) confessed to  
c) apologized for  
d) admitted
14. "The delay was caused by a technical problem." → He \_\_\_\_ that the delay had been caused by a technical problem.  
a) claimed  
b) told  
c) described  
d) explained
15. "I saw a UFO last night." → He \_\_\_\_ that he had seen a UFO the night before.  
a) claimed  
b) admitted  
c) explained  
d) mentioned
16. "Don't forget — the meeting is at 3 p.m." → She \_\_\_\_ me that the meeting was at 3 p.m.  
a) reminded  
b) warned  
c) said  
d) mentioned
17. "Please don't tell anyone about this." → She \_\_\_\_ me not to tell anyone about that.  
a) said  
b) ordered  
c) demanded  
d) asked
18. "I'll take you to court if you don't pay me back!" → He \_\_\_\_ to take me to court if I didn't pay him back.  
a) promised  
b) threatened  
c) warned  
d) offered
19. "I can speak a little Japanese, actually." → She \_\_\_\_ that she could speak a little Japanese.  
a) mentioned  
b) told  
c) admitted  
d) explained
20. "Stop making so much noise!" → The neighbour \_\_\_\_ us to stop making so much noise.  
a) ordered  
b) said  
c) suggested  
d) recommended



## Answers

1. c) promised
2. c) threatened
3. c) suggested
4. b) apologized
5. b) refused
6. c) warned
7. d) agreed
8. a) recommended
9. b) denied
10. c) offered
11. d) complained
12. b) insisted
13. d) admitted
14. d) explained
15. a) claimed
16. a) reminded
17. d) asked
18. b) threatened
19. a) mentioned
20. a) ordered



# Explanations

## 1. “promised” (c)

'I'll definitely' with strong personal commitment signals a promise. 'Promise + to-infinitive' is the correct pattern. 'Agree' means saying yes to someone else's proposal.

## 2. “threatened” (c)

The speaker is making a negative warning — this is a threat. 'Threaten + to-infinitive' is correct. 'Warn' would need a different structure: 'warned me that she would call...'

## 3. “suggested” (c)

'Why don't we...?' is a suggestion for a group activity. 'Suggest + -ing' is correct. 'Told' cannot be followed by -ing — it needs a person + to-infinitive.

## 4. “apologized” (b)

'I'm sorry' is an apology. 'Apologize for + -ing' is the correct pattern. 'Admit' focuses on accepting fault, but doesn't convey the 'sorry' element.

## 5. “refused” (b)

'No, I won't' is a direct refusal. 'Refuse + to-infinitive' is correct. 'Deny' means to say something is not true, which is a different meaning.

## 6. “warned” (c)

'Be careful' signals a warning about danger. 'Warn + person + that clause' is correct. 'Said' and 'mentioned' cannot take a person object before a that-clause.

## 7. “agreed” (d)

'OK' shows acceptance of a request — this is agreement. 'Agree + to-infinitive' is correct. 'Suggested' and 'insisted' cannot be followed by to-infinitive — they need -ing or a that-clause.

## 8. “recommended” (a)

'I really think you should' expresses strong personal advice — this is a recommendation. 'Recommend + -ing' is correct. 'Told' cannot be followed by -ing — it needs a person + to-infinitive.

## 9. “denied” (b)

The speaker says something is not true. 'Deny + -ing' means to say you didn't do something. 'Refuse' means to say no to a request — different meaning.

## 10. “offered” (c)

'Let me...' is a voluntary offer of help. 'Offer + to-infinitive' is correct. 'Suggested' and 'insisted' cannot be followed by to-infinitive — they need -ing or a that-clause.

## 11. “complained” (d)

The speaker is expressing strong dissatisfaction. 'Complain about + noun' is correct. 'Mention' is too casual for such strong negative feelings.

## 12. “insisted” (b)

'You must' shows strong demand. 'Insist + that clause' (with subjunctive or 'should') is correct: 'insisted that we pay'. 'Suggest' and 'recommend' are too mild for 'you must'.

## 13. “admitted” (d)

The speaker accepts something is true. 'Admit + -ing' means to accept that you did something wrong. 'Confess to' implies a more serious wrongdoing.

**14. “explained” (d)**

The speaker is giving a reason. 'Explain + that clause' is correct. 'Claim' implies doubt about the truth. 'Told' needs a person object. 'Described' cannot take a that-clause.

**15. “claimed” (a)**

The speaker makes a statement that seems doubtful or hard to believe. 'Claim + that clause' is used for assertions that may not be accepted as true.

**16. “reminded” (a)**

'Don't forget' signals a reminder. 'Remind + person + that clause' is correct. 'Said' and 'mentioned' cannot take a person object before a that-clause.

**17. “asked” (d)**

'Please' signals a polite request. 'Ask + person + not to + infinitive' is the correct pattern. 'Said' cannot take a person object + to-infinitive.

**18. “threatened” (b)**

The speaker is threatening legal action. 'Threaten + to-infinitive' is the correct pattern. The tone is hostile, which distinguishes a threat from a warning.

**19. “mentioned” (a)**

The word 'actually' and the casual tone suggest this is a brief, incidental remark. 'Mention + that clause' or 'mention + -ing' is correct for brief references.

**20. “ordered” (a)**

The exclamation mark and imperative form show this is a strong command, not a polite request. 'Order + person + to-infinitive' captures the forcefulness.