



## Reporting Verbs:

# Advanced Reporting Verbs: Patterns & Structures

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

1. She agreed \_\_\_\_ the extra shift on Saturday.  
a) to work  
b) working  
c) that she works  
d) work
2. He denied \_\_\_\_ the money from the safe.  
a) to take  
b) taking  
c) take  
d) that he takes
3. The manager refused \_\_\_\_ us a refund.  
a) giving  
b) give  
c) that he gives  
d) to give
4. She suggested \_\_\_\_ to the new Italian restaurant.  
a) going  
b) to go  
c) go  
d) that we will go
5. He promised \_\_\_\_ on time for the wedding.  
a) to be  
b) being  
c) be  
d) that he is
6. She admitted \_\_\_\_ a mistake in the report.  
a) to make  
b) make  
c) that she makes  
d) making
7. He threatened \_\_\_\_ the police if we didn't leave.  
a) to call  
b) calling  
c) call  
d) that he calls
8. The teacher recommended \_\_\_\_ the textbook before the exam.  
a) to read  
b) read  
c) reading  
d) that we will read
9. She apologized \_\_\_\_ arriving late to the meeting.  
a) about  
b) to  
c) of  
d) for
10. He offered \_\_\_\_ me to the airport.  
a) driving  
b) drive  
c) that he drives  
d) to drive
11. The doctor insisted \_\_\_\_ seeing the test results before making a decision.  
a) for  
b) in  
c) on  
d) to





## Answers

1. a) to work
2. b) taking
3. d) to give
4. a) going
5. a) to be
6. d) making
7. a) to call
8. c) reading
9. d) for
10. d) to drive
11. c) on
12. a) that
13. b) to look
14. b) to have seen
15. c) that
16. d) to
17. b) living
18. c) being
19. c) that
20. b) to



# Explanations

## 1. “to work” (a)

'Agree' takes 'to + infinitive': agree to do something. 'She agreed to work' means she said yes to working the extra shift.

## 2. “taking” (b)

'Deny' takes '-ing': deny doing something. 'He denied taking the money' means he said he did not take it.

## 3. “to give” (d)

'Refuse' takes 'to + infinitive': refuse to do something. The manager said no to giving a refund.

## 4. “going” (a)

'Suggest' takes '-ing': suggest doing something. It can also take 'that + subject + should/present subjunctive': suggest that we go. But 'suggest to go' is incorrect.

## 5. “to be” (a)

'Promise' takes 'to + infinitive': promise to do something. 'He promised to be on time' means he gave his word that he would arrive punctually.

## 6. “making” (d)

'Admit' takes '-ing': admit doing something. 'She admitted making a mistake' means she accepted that she had made an error.

## 7. “to call” (a)

'Threaten' takes 'to + infinitive': threaten to do something. 'He threatened to call the police' means he said he would call them as a warning.

## 8. “reading” (c)

'Recommend' takes '-ing': recommend doing something. It can also take 'that + subject + (should) + base verb': recommend that we read. But 'recommend to read' is incorrect.

## 9. “for” (d)

'Apologize for + -ing' is the correct pattern: apologize for doing something. 'She apologized for arriving late' means she said sorry for being late.

## 10. “to drive” (d)

'Offer' takes 'to + infinitive': offer to do something. 'He offered to drive me' means he volunteered to take me to the airport.

## 11. “on” (c)

'Insist on + -ing' is the correct pattern: insist on doing something. The doctor firmly demanded to see the results first.

## 12. “that” (a)

'Explain' takes a 'that' clause: explain that... Note: we say 'explain that...' or 'explain something to someone' — NOT 'explain me' (explain does not take a person as direct object).

## 13. “to look” (b)

'Decide' takes 'to + infinitive': decide to do something. 'He decided to look for a new job' means he made the choice to search for other employment.

**14. “to have seen” (b)**

'Claim' takes 'to + infinitive'. For actions before the time of reporting, use 'to have + past participle': claimed to have seen. This shows the seeing happened before the claiming.

**15. “that” (c)**

'Complain that...' introduces a that-clause explaining what the complaint is about. 'Complain about + noun/-ing' is also possible: 'complained about the noise'.

**16. “to” (d)**

'Confess to + -ing' is the correct pattern: confess to doing something. 'He confessed to eating the cake' means he admitted his guilt.

**17. “living” (b)**

'Mention' takes '-ing': mention doing something. It can also take a 'that' clause: mentioned that she had lived. 'Mention to do' is incorrect.

**18. “being” (c)**

'Deny' takes '-ing': deny being/doing something. 'The company denied being responsible' means the company said it was not to blame.

**19. “that” (c)**

'Agree' can also take a 'that' clause: agree that... This is used when stating what was agreed upon. 'Agree to + infinitive' is for actions: 'agreed to finish'.

**20. “to” (b)**

'Object to + -ing' is the correct pattern: object to doing something. Note: 'to' here is a preposition (not part of an infinitive), so it is followed by '-ing'.