

Reporting verbs

Some reporting verbs may appear in more than one of the following groups.

1. Verbs followed by '*if*' or '*whether*' + *clause (Subject+Verb)*:

ask know remember say see	Examples: He asked if it was true. He didn't remember whether she came.
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2. Verbs followed by a *that-clause (Subject + verb)*:

add admit agree announce answer argue boast claim comment complain confirm consider deny doubt estimate explain fear feel insist mention observe persuade propose remark remember repeat reply report reveal say state suggest	Examples: He agreed that it was quite fun. He denied that she had said that. Devaj explained that it was dangerous. Paco insisted that he wanted to go. The group understood that Devaj was right.
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suppose tell think understand warn	
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3. Verbs followed by either a *that-clause* or a *to-infinitive*:

decide expect guarantee hope promise swear threaten	<p>Examples:</p> <p>Paco decided that he would go on his own / Paco decided to go on his own.</p> <p>Paco promised that he would come back soon / Paco promised to come back soon.</p>
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4. Verbs followed by a *that-clause containing should* (note that it may be omitted, leaving a subject + zero-infinitive [subjunctive]):

advise beg demand insist prefer propose recommend request suggest	<p>Examples:</p> <p>He suggested to me that I should study harder / He suggested to me that I study (subjunctive) harder.</p>
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5. Verbs followed by a clause *starting with a question word*:

decide describe discover discuss explain forget guess imagine know learn realise remember reveal say see	<p>Examples:</p> <p>He decided where we were going next.</p> <p>They knew what to do.</p> <p>Paco wondered how difficult it would be.</p>
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suggest teach tell think understand wonder	
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6. Verbs followed by *object + to-infinitive*

advise ask beg command forbid instruct invite teach tell warn	Examples: Devaj invited them to have dinner with the local people. He asked them to be on time.
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