

GRAMMAR

Reporting verb patterns

I can use various reporting verbs.



Michael **suggested** that they grab a coffee.

- 1 Look at the cartoon. People saw Michael and Janet together. Read the reported statements and try to guess what happened.

- 1 Paul **wondered** whether Michael had bought flowers for a date.
- 2 Robert **claims** that he saw Michael and Janet arm in arm.
- 3 The waitress **reported** seeing Michael and Janet holding hands.
- 4 Janet **informed** Michael that she and Jack had been together for two years.
- 5 Janet **accused** Michael **of** being a liar.
- 6 Michael **begged** Janet not to tell anyone.

- 2  3.6 Listen to the actual events as they happened. Were your predictions correct?

- 3 Read the GRAMMAR FOCUS. In pairs, decide which category the reporting verbs from Exercise 1 and the cartoon belong to.

- 4** In pairs, choose the correct answers. More than one is possible.
- 1 She proposed *that I apologise / apologising / me to apologise* for the confusion.
 - 2 Paul complained *about my being late / about me being late / my being late*.
 - 3 She convinced me *calling / that I had to call / to call* the agency.
 - 4 Leila admitted *being / having been / that she had been* in the wrong.
 - 5 They demanded *they be allowed / to allow / being allowed* to speak with you.
 - 6 I wondered *how they had got / where they had got / how did they get* the information.
 - 7 She insisted *that she be permitted / on being permitted / to be permitted* to write an email.
 - 8 I explained *that I had misunderstood / why I had misunderstood / that to misunderstand* her instructions.
 - 9 He reminded me *not to forget / to not forget / about to forget* to post his letter.
 - 10 I persuaded her *that she could manage / to manage / not managing* the situation alone.
- 5** In your notebook, report the sentences using the verbs in the box. Begin with the pronouns given. Sometimes there is more than one possible answer.

(ask advise congratulate deny regret threaten urge)

- 1 I wish you had told me.
He regretted not having been told.
- 2 Did you receive my email?
He _____.
- 3 It's imperative you keep us up to date on any news.
They _____.
- 4 If you don't tell her, I certainly will!
He _____.
- 5 I swear it wasn't me that misled her!
She _____.
- 6 You really ought to send him a text.
She _____.
- 7 Well done! You've all been accepted on the programme.
They _____.

- 6 SPEAKING** Discuss the questions in groups.

- 1 What things do you most often complain about?
- 2 When was the last time you persuaded somebody to do (or not to do) something?
- 3 Who last congratulated you on something? What was it for?
- 4 Who did you last apologise to? What was it for?

Grammar pages 132–133

GRAMMAR FOCUS

Reporting verb patterns

verb + (*that*) + reported sentence

→ admit, ¹**claim**, demand, deny, explain, insist, regret, report, threaten

verb + object + (that) + reported sentence

→ advise, convince, ² persuade, persuade, remind

verb + *if/wh*-word + reported sentence

→ ask, explain, report, ³ ?

verb + (that) + personal pronoun + (should) + infinitive without to

→ *beg, demand, insist, propose*, ⁴ ?

verb + infinitive

→ ask, claim, demand, threaten

verb + object + infinitive

→ advise, ask, ⁵ ?, convince, persuade, remind, urge

verb + *-ing* form

→ admit, deny, propose, regret, ⁶ ? , suggest

verb + (object) + preposition + *-ing* form

→ 7 ?, apologise for, complain about, congratulate on, insist on

Note: Some of the verbs can be followed by more than one pattern.