

Infinitive Clauses Practice

We can use infinitive clauses to report advice, requests, orders, etc. Certain reporting verbs (e.g. *tell*, *advise*, *remind*, *beg*, etc.) must be directly followed by an object and an infinitive.

On the other hand, some reporting verbs (e.g. *request*, *refuse*, *demand*, etc.) can be directly followed by an infinitive only. When we report something that someone told us not to do, we put *not* between the reporting verb and *to*.

Direct speech	Reported speech
"Please wait outside," he said.	He told me to wait outside. (reporting verb + object + infinitive)
"I want to see the manager!" said the man.	The man demand to see the manager. (reporting verb + infinitive)
"Please don't eat on the sofa," said Mum.	Mum begged me not to eat on the sofa. (reporting verb + not + infinitive)

We can also use infinitives with verbs like *tell*, *order*, *warn* or *command* to report imperatives.

Direct speech	Reported speech
"Be quiet!" said the teacher.	The teacher ordered us to be quiet.
"Don't run on the ice!" Marie said.	Marie warned me not to run on the ice.

A. Underline the correct reporting verb in each sentence and add one of the verbs below, in its infinitive form, to each sentence.

take turn see floss not / go be say leave give ask babysit wait

- The dentist *advised* / *promised* me my teeth daily.
- The patient *requested* / *ordered* her usual doctor.
- The guide *agreed* / *warned* us too close to the edge of the cliff.
- My husband *promised* / *instructed* home by midnight.
- The neighbours *warned* / *asked* us down our music.
- The naughty child *refused* / *instructed* sorry to his sister.
- My friends *instructed* / *persuaded* me her out.
- The manager of the shop *told* / *agreed* me a refund.
- I *reminded* / *promised* my husband his medicine.
- My friend *ordered* / *offered* the kids for us last weekend.
- The teacher *instructed* / *promised* us our phones on her desk.
- Peter *told* / *refused* me my turn.

B. Match the sentence halves to make infinitive clause sentences.

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|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. The sergeant ordered us | a. to brush my teeth before going to bed. |
| 2. The teacher told us | b. to have Saturday night off. |
| 3. The nurse advised me | c. not to dive into the shallow end. |
| 4. The lifeguard warned us | d. to march in a straight line. |
| 5. Mum reminded me | e. to put ice on my twisted ankle. |
| 6. The waiter requested | f. to take our grammar books out. |

C. Put the words in order to make sentences that include reporting verbs that are followed by an infinitive.

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(teacher / the / told / quiet / to / us / be)
-
(hot / pan / to / he / me / touch / not / the / warned)
-
(in / advised / doctor / me / stay / bed / to / the)
-
(Anna / Tom / help / her / to / lift / sofa / the / asked)
-
(Shelley's / for / party / Sam / not / me / to / late / me / be / reminded)

D. Use the verbs below with an infinitive to report what each person said to Maria.

advise warn beg remind urge ask

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The teacher: "Don't be late for class again."
-
Her little brother: "Please, please, buy me some candy!"
-
Her boyfriend, Tom: "Will you go to the dance with me?"
-
Her best friend, Kim: "You should break up with Tom."
-
Her mother: "Remember to send Grandma a birthday card."
-
Her father: "Come home immediately!"