

Vocabulary

7 Ways of speaking

Complete the conversation with the correct form of the verbs in the box.

say	tell	explain	speak	talk	reply	ask
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I was walking in town the other day when I met old Mr Brown, so we stopped and (1) talked for a while. He (2) _____ me that his wife, Jenny, had been taken into hospital. I (3) _____ him how Jenny was, and he (4) _____ that she was getting better. I (5) _____ Mr Brown to give Jenny my regards. He wondered why I hadn't been to the tennis club recently, so I (6) _____ that I'd been very busy and just hadn't had time.

'There's something you must (7) _____ me,' Mr Brown suddenly said. 'How many languages does your son (8) _____?'

'Four,' I (9) _____. 'Why (10) _____ you _____?'

'Well, I know your son has some very funny stories to (11) _____ about his trips abroad and his language learning. We're having a meeting of the Travellers' Club next week, and I'd like him to come along and (12) _____ to us.'

I (13) _____ that I would (14) _____ to my son about it, and I promised to get back in touch with him.

Then we (15) _____ goodbye and went our separate ways.

8 Other reporting verbs

Rewrite the sentences in reported speech using the verbs in the boxes. Use each verb once.

complain admit deny suggest explain	that	refuse offer agree promise	to do
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1 'I think it would be a very good idea for you to go to bed,' the doctor said to Paul.

The doctor suggested that Paul went to bed.

2 'Yes, OK. I'll lend you £25,' Jo said to Matt.

3 'Yes, it was me. I broke your camera,' said Harry.

4 'I didn't pull her hair,' said Timmy.

5 'I didn't do the homework because I was ill,' said the student.

6 'If you tidy your room, I'll buy you a pizza!' said Jessica's dad.

7 'Excuse me! There's a fly in my salad,' said Patrick.

8 'I'm sorry. I can't marry you because I don't love you,' Sarah said to Adrian.

9 'I'll cook supper if you like,' Amanda said to Duncan.