Reporting verbs

1 Complete the reported speech with the correct form of the words in brackets.

- 1 We agreed _____ (meet) at the weekend.
- 2 Dave ordered ______ (his little sister / get out) of his room.
- 3 They recommended ______ (visit) the castle.
- 4 She confessed ______ (steal) his bag.
- 5 I blamed ______ (him / miss) the bus.
- 6 Josie demanded ______ (Eloise / finish) her lunch.
- 7 Miguel advised _____ (us / work) harder.
- 8 My mum threatened ______ (take away) my mobile phone if I didn't do my homework.

2 Rewrite the mini-dialogues in reported speech. Use the reporting verbs below.

accuse apologise boast congratulate deny offer promise refuse remind suggest

1 EllaI won't eat the food!DadI'll buy you an ice cream if you finish your meal.

Ella <u>refused to eat the food</u>

Her dad <u>offered to buy her an ice cream if she finished her meal</u>

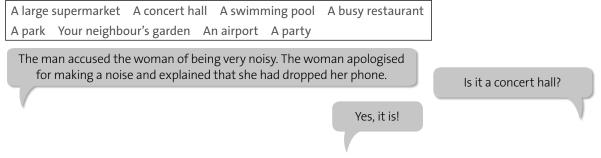
Her mum _____

- 3 Bella I passed my driving test! It was really easy! Jed Congratulations! Bella ______ Jed _____
- 4 Yasmin You look really unwell. I think you ought to see a doctor. Ali OK, I promise I'll make an appointment this afternoon. Yasmin _________.
 Ali ________.
 5 Rick You copied my homework!

Anne	No, I didn't.	
Rick		
Anne		

3 SPEAKING Work in groups. Play 'overheard conversations'.

- Take it in turns to choose one of the locations below.
- Imagine you were there yesterday and you heard an interesting conversation between a man and a woman.
- Report on the conversation to the rest of the group. Can they guess where you were?



7D Reporting verbs

Aims: To review and practise using reporting verbs.

Time: 10–15 minutes

Materials: 1 handout for each student

Exercise 1

- Give each student a handout and ask them to work individually or in pairs to do the exercise. Students can then compare their answers in pairs.
- Check answers with the class.

KEY

- 1 to meet
- 2 his little sister to get out
- 3 visiting
- 4 to stealing / to having stolen
- 5 him for missing / for having missed
- 6 that Eloise (should) finish
- 7 us to work
- 8 to take away

Exercise 2

- Students read some mini-dialogues and then use reported speech to rewrite them. Ask two students to read out the example mini-dialogue and reported speech sentences first. Remind students to change pronouns and time clauses where necessary.
- Check answers with the class.

KEY

- 2 (Diane) apologised for missing her mum's phone call. (Her mum) reminded her to switch her phone on when she goes/went out.
- 3 (Bella) boasted that she had passed her driving test and that it had been really easy. (Jed) congratulated her on passing her driving test.
- 4 (Yasmin) suggested that Ali should see a doctor. (Ali) promised to make an appointment that afternoon.
- 5 (Rick) accused Anne of copying his homework. (Anne) denied that she had.

Exercise 3

• Working in groups, students play a game in which they imagine an overheard conversation in a specific location. They report this conversation to the other people in the group, who have to guess the location. Encourage students to make the game more challenging by keeping the conversation quite general.