

## Common reporting verbs for academic writing

It is important you understand and know how to use the verb correctly before placing it in a sentence, and that you use past or present tense as appropriate.

	weaker position	neutral position	stronger position
<b>addition</b>		adds	
<b>advice</b>		advises	
<b>agreement</b>	admits, concedes	accepts, acknowledges, agrees, concurs, confirms, recognises	applauds, congratulates, extols, praises, supports
<b>argument and persuasion</b>	apologises	assures, encourages, interprets, justifies, reasons	alerts, argues, boasts, contends, convinces, emphasises, exhorts, forbids, insists, proves, promises, persuades, threatens, warns
<b>believing</b>	guesses, hopes, imagines	believes, claims, declares, expresses, feels, holds, knows, maintains, professes, subscribes to, thinks	asserts, guarantees, insists, upholds
<b>conclusion</b>		concludes, discovers, finds, infers, realises	
<b>disagreement and questioning</b>	doubts, questions	challenges, debates, disagrees, questions, requests, wonders	accuses, attacks, complains, contradicts, criticises, denies, discards, disclaims, discounts, dismisses, disputes, disregards, negates, objects to, opposes, refutes, rejects
<b>discussion</b>	comments	discusses, explores	reasons
<b>emphasis</b>			accentuates, emphasises, highlights, stresses, underscores, warns
<b>evaluation and examination</b>		analyses, appraises, assesses, compares, considers, contrasts, critiques, evaluates, examines, investigates, understands	blames, complains, ignores, scrutinises, warns
<b>explanation</b>		articulates, clarifies, explains	
<b>presentation</b>	confuses	comments, defines, describes, estimates, forgets, identifies, illustrates, implies, informs, instructs, lists, mentions, notes, observes, outlines, points out, presents, remarks, reminds, reports, restates, reveals, shows, states, studies, tells, uses	announces, promises
<b>suggestion</b>	alleges, intimates, speculates	advises, advocates, hypothesises, posits, postulates, proposes, suggests, theorises	asserts, recommends, urges