

Worksheet on Reporting Verbs

Function and strength	Example verbs
NEUTRAL: verbs used to say what the writer describes in factual terms, demonstrates, refers to, and discusses, and verbs used to explain his/her methodology.	describe, show, reveal, study, demonstrate, note, point out, indicate, report, observe, assume, examine, state, believe (unless this is a strong belief), mention, etc.
TENTATIVE: verbs used to say what the writer suggests or speculates on (without being absolutely certain).	suggest, speculate, intimate, imply, propose, recommend, postulate, etc.
STRONG: verbs used to say what the writer makes strong arguments and claims for.	argue, claim, emphasize, contend, maintain, assert, negate, refute, reject, challenge, etc.

Table adapted from the University of Warwick College Website

Your notes:

A
advise
agree
argue
C
claim
comment
confirm
D
decide
demand
doubt
E
encourage
estimate
explain
I
inquire
insist
M
mention
O
observe
offer
P
propose
R
recommend
remark
remember
remind
repeat
reply
report
respond
S
say
state
suggest

Material adapted from Wiktionary site on Reporting Verbs