

Talked until dawn

a song by Alan Smith Robertson

<https://youtu.be/tVieNqNjb4g>

Put the reporting verbs from the list on the right into an appropriate space.
Sometimes there is more than one possible verb.

Then listen to see if you guessed right.

Lyrics

VERSE

I'm no boyfriend material
I don't commit to anyone
I once had this girl, she liked to talk
And when she did, I wanted to turn her off

CHORUS

She ¹ said that we needed to talk
And I ² asked her what was wrong
And then she talked until dawn
And as night turned into day
And I ³ told her I could change
But I turned and she had left

VERSE

She ⁴ told me that she needed time
And ⁵ apologized for the hurt she caused
I ⁶ agreed to give her some space
and I ⁷ promised that I would wait for her

BRIDGE

And so I ⁸ submit, I was tempted away
Oh, but my Mercedes attracts the ladies

VERSE

When she finally came back
I ⁹ confessed I'd met someone else
And then she ¹⁰ begged me to stay
And then she ¹¹ blamed me for how she felt

Verbs

admit
advised
agreed
apologised
asked
begged
blamed
confessed
insisted
persuaded
promised
reminded
said
suggested
threatened
told
urged
warned

Post-listening activities

Are there any differences in meaning between the verb in the lyrics and the one that you chose?

For example, in #6 (*I agreed to give her some space*) maybe you wrote one of the phrases below:

- “I asked to give her some space”
- “I begged to give her some space”
- “I promised to give her some space”
- “I threatened to give her some space”

Do you prefer **your** choices or the actual lyrics?

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Now look at these lines from the song: *I once had this girl, she liked to talk
And when she did, I wanted to turn her off*

What does “I wanted to turn her off” mean? Why is this a strange choice of words?

* * *

The lyrics of the song narrate a conversation between two people who are in a romantic relationship with each other. Look at the conversation below and fill the gaps to imagine how the conversation went. Also try adding other phrases to make the conversation sound more natural.

She said that we needed to talk, and I asked her what was wrong.
She told me that she needed time and I told her I could change.
She could see that I was in pain so she apologised for the hurt she caused.
I agreed to give her some space and I promised that I would wait for her.
(When she finally came back) I confessed I'd met someone else.
She begged me to stay and then she blamed me for how she felt.

♀ We need to talk
♂ What's happen?
♀ This relationship isn't working. We need to take some time.
♂ I can change darlyng
♀ It's too late. I'm sorry for the damage I'm doing.
♂ OK, I will give you your space. I wait for you.
[several weeks later]
♀ I'm back!
♂ Oh dear... Excuse, I'm dating another girl. It's late.
♀ What?
♂ I have to go
♀ No! You don't go, I need you in my life.

* * *

Have you ever had an uncomfortable conversation with someone?

Maybe you've had to apologise for a mistake you made, or give someone some bad news!

How did it go?