

Entry 3 – Word order

English has strict rules about the order in which words can appear in a sentence.

Study the rules below.

	Rules and examples
verb + object	In a sentence, the verb and the object usually go together: <u>I found my keys.</u> <u>I found</u> (verb) <u>my keys</u> (object). I never <u>meet my friends</u> during the week. Can you <u>see me</u> now?
place + time	We usually put place and time together after the object : I found my keys <u>at work this morning.</u> I found <u>my keys</u> (object) <u>at work</u> (place) <u>this morning</u> (time). I'm staying <u>at home tonight.</u> I've never been <u>to Russia during winter.</u> We can also put time at the beginning of the sentence: <u>Tonight</u> I'm staying at home.

	Rules and examples
indirect object with 'to'	We usually put the direct object before the indirect object with 'to' : I sent <u>the email to her</u> this morning. I sent the email (direct object) <u>to her</u> (indirect object with 'to') this morning.
indirect object without 'to'	We usually put the direct object after an indirect object without 'to' : I sent <u>her</u> the email. I sent <u>her</u> (indirect object without 'to') <u>the email</u> (direct object).

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1. Practice - Time and place

Complete each sentence :

1. **I (have lived / for 5 years / here). I have lived here for 5 years.**
2. (English / have been learning / for a year / in Japan).
They
3. (on Saturday / Andrew / invite / to your party)?
Are you going to
4. (to work / yesterday / didn't go).
Debbie.....
5. (a new laptop / bought / at the computer store / last week).
I
6. (every day / your Facebook profile / check)?
Do you?
7. (on Friday / the children / took / to the amusement park).
We
8. (the same pair of jeans / has been wearing / for years).
Nick
9. (at the moment / a new cinema / in my town / are building).
They

2. Practice - Direct/Indirect object

Rewrite the sentences below in a different way:

1. I wrote my mother an email this morning. I wrote an email to my mother this morning.
2. I lent some money to him.
3. I offered him some wine, but he refused.
4. She didn't give enough time to her students.
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5. Can you pass the salt to me, please?
6. Sarah has been giving piano lessons to Paul.
7. Send a text to her. She might reply.