3 Direct and indirect objects

1 Introduction



Henry gave ***Claire some flowers.***
Here the verb **give** has two objects. **Claire** is the indirect object, the person receiving something. **Some flowers** is the direct object, the thing that someone gives.

Henry gave ***some flowers to Claire.***
Here **give** has a direct object (**some flowers**) and a phrase with **to**. **To** comes before **Claire**, the person receiving something.

Here are some more examples of the two structures.

	INDIRECT OBJECT	DIRECT OBJECT		DIRECT OBJECT	PHRASE WITH TO/FOR
Emma gave	***Rachel***	***a CD.***	*Emma gave*	***the CD***	***to Rachel.***
I'll send	***my cousin***	***a postcard.***	*I'll send*	***a postcard***	***to my cousin.***
We bought	***all the children***	***an ice-cream.***	*We bought*	***ice-creams***	***for all the children.***

Finding Direct Objects

A direct object is a word or phrase denoting the receiver of the action of a verb. It answers the question"what" or "who"
Example: Elizabeth wrote an article for the school magazine.

Underline the direct object in each sentence.

1) Mom baked me a pumpkin pie.

2) The Jeremys bought him a few souvenirs from their holiday in Chile.

3) The company hasn't offered her the job yet.

4) Sean gave his mom a gift .

5) The huge python devoured the crocodile.

6) Grandpa hugs Benjamin every day.

7) Kenny brought his sister a big bouquet of roses.



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Finding Indirect Objects

An indirect object is a person or thing that the action of a verb is performed for or directed to. It is also the recipient of the direct object.

Example: Mike passed me the ball.

Underline the indirect object in each sentence.

1) Alex gave him a ride to the station.

2) Kevin showed Ms. Adams his project.

3) Little Nathan drew his dad a picture.

4) They bought me some CDs.

5) Louise cooked her sister a nice meal.

6) Arianne sent her a postcard from Berlin.

7) The teacher gave the class a new project.

8) Roarke bought them return gifts.



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Identifying Direct and Indirect Objects

Underline the direct object, and circle the indirect object.

Example: Katie gave (me) candies.

1) The company has sent me an email.

2) My dad gave me fifty dollars.

3) Grandma will cook my friends a delicious meal.

4) Bob built his children a treehouse in the backyard.

5) I read the old man an article from the newspaper.

6) Did Gerald bring you the new book?

7) Mom left Sara two oranges.

8) The teacher told us funny stories.

9) I showed Aunt Shine my wedding pictures.



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