

THE DIRECT OBJECT

The direct object is a word to which the verb carries the action from the subject. Think of the verb as a baseball. If someone or something catches it, the verb has gone directly to its object. Action verbs with a direct object are called transitive verbs. Direct objects answer the question "What?" or "Whom?" after an action verb.

- ex. I called Joe. (called whom?)
Our team won the game. (won what?)
Dave has studied Latin. (has studied what?)

The direct object tells *what* after the verb. If the word tells *how*, *when*, *where*, or *why*, it is an adverb.

- ex. Ann walked slowly. (Slowly tells *how*; it is an adverb, not a direct object.)

Identifying Direct Objects. Underline the verb or verb phrase in each of the following sentences. Circle the direct object of the verb. Do not include modifiers.

Example: Jane ^Vgave a birthday ^{d.o.}present to Kate.

1. The candidate made many promises during the campaign.
2. I lost my voice before the play.
3. Mother will drive Kim to her swimming lesson.
4. Miss Hayes reviews movies for the local paper.
5. Rhonda has a theory about the robbery.
6. The buffet included three salads.
7. Who hit the ball through Mr. Brown's window?
8. We visited Kentucky during our spring vacation.
9. Dave is taking French this semester.
10. Connie cut the grass last night.
11. Have you dusted the furniture in the living room?
12. Jane has knit three sweaters this winter.
13. The Clarks are having a garage sale Friday.
14. When she tripped on the stairs, Janet hurt her ankle.
15. Have you ever read *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle?
16. Pam has not made a decision about her job.
17. Have you paid your bills yet?
18. Donna Storms plays tennis very well.
19. Dan has told the truth about last Monday evening.
20. Have you recorded the results of your experiment?