

DIRECT OBJECTS



Become a Super Writer

Darnel is writing a book called *Famous Firsts*. It tells about people who were the first to do or invent something. Here are two sentences from the book.

Thomas Edison invented the light bulb. He invented it in 1879.

The verb in the first sentence is *invented*. The **direct object**, *light bulb*, answers the question "What was invented?" In the second sentence, *it* is the direct object. The pronoun *it* refers to what was invented.

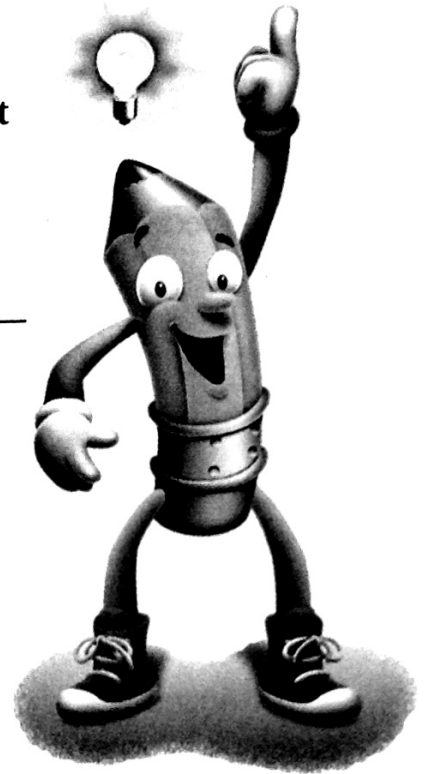
Definition

The **direct object** receives the action of the verb in the sentence. The direct object may be a noun or a pronoun.

Your Turn

Underline the verb in each sentence. Then write the direct object on the line.

1. Marie Curie discovered radium. _____
2. Anthony Gatto juggled seven flaming torches. _____
3. Neil Armstrong visited the moon. _____
4. The Wright brothers flew an airplane. _____
5. The Chinese invented paper. _____
6. Roald Amundsen explored the South Pole. _____
7. Amundsen had high hopes for his trip. _____
8. Ethiopians made the first stone tools. _____
9. They used them for digging, eating, and hunting. _____
10. Jackie Joyner-Kersey won three Olympic gold medals. _____
11. Jonas Salk found a vaccine for polio. _____
12. Alexander Graham Bell patented the first telephone. _____
13. James Naismith invented basketball in 1891. _____
14. The athletes played the first game with a soccer ball. _____



Darnel had to write a fiction story for homework. Help him complete his assignment by writing a direct object on each blank line. Choose from the direct objects in the word bank.

cat	her	word	sentence
volume	dog	paragraph	hair
CD	video	it	tape

Christopher sat at his computer for hours. He hadn't yet typed a single
 (15) _____. It was getting late, and the story was due the next morning. He had
 waited until the last minute. His mother called to him, but he didn't hear (16) _____.
 He played a (17) _____. He adjusted the (18) _____. He combed his
 (19) _____. But he could not think of anything to write. Finally Christopher typed
 one (20) _____. He thought about it for a few minutes. Then he deleted
 (21) _____. He petted the family's black (22) _____. It purred, but it didn't
 have any ideas either.

Editing

Correct the mistakes in the end of Darnel's story. Five of his direct objects are misspelled.

Mistakes	
Capitalization	4
Punctuation	3

Finally Christopher got an ideah. He typed a few wurd. then he typed a few
 sentenses sentences became paragraphs, and paragraphs sprouted chapturs.
 Getting the first few words on paper started the ideas bubbling Before long,
 pages were streaming from christopher's printer! Soon he had more than twenty
 sheats? He yelped with joy when he read his story. It was about a boy who had
 waited until the last moment to start a story. it began, "Christopher sat at his
 computer for hours."

12

INDIRECT OBJECTS



Become a Super Writer

Monique makes greeting cards. She sells them to friends and people at school. She makes lists to stay organized. Here are items from one list.

Send Mrs. Davis the new card. Write her a thank-you note.

In the first sentence, the word *card* is the direct object. It receives the action of the verb *send*. *Mrs. Davis* is the **indirect object**. She is the person to whom the card is being sent. In the second sentence, the pronoun *her* is the indirect object. The thank-you note is being written to *her*.

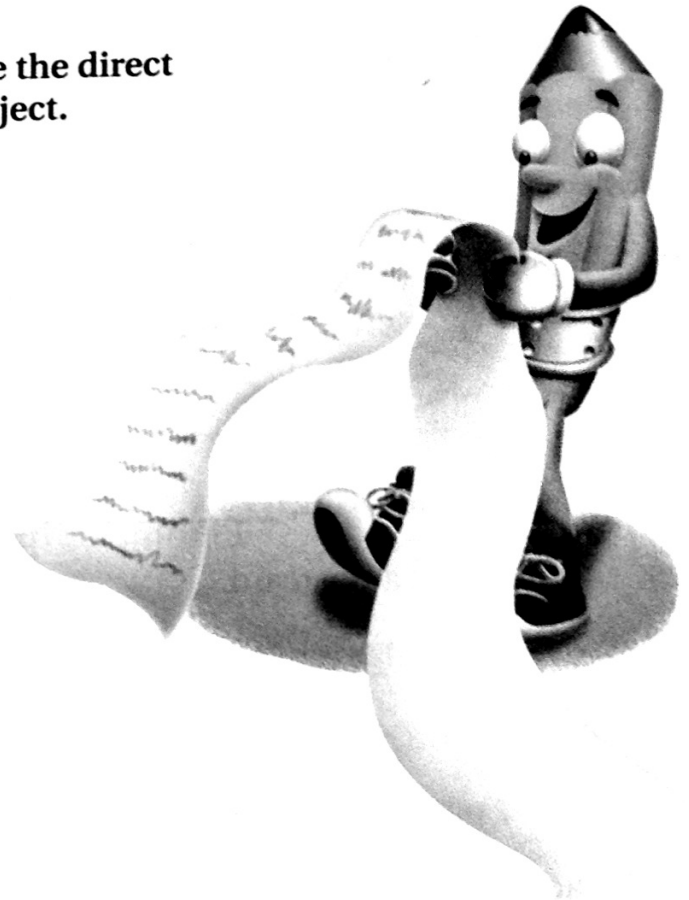
Definition

An **indirect object** tells to whom or for whom the action was done.

Your Turn

Look at the items on Monique's list. Underline the direct object in each sentence. Circle the indirect object.

1. Send Tom an E-mail message.
2. Give him a list of customers.
3. Get Evan some colored computer paper.
4. Show Lisa the new design.
5. Send Ann her first batch of cards.
6. Offer Susie a special deal.
7. Lend Tina the camera.
8. Give Dad a sample birthday card.
9. Read Alice the new greeting.
10. Teach Yvette the art program.
11. Write Orin a letter.
12. Then tell friends the good news.



Use the first letter of each indirect object above to solve this riddle.

13. What unofficial holiday is celebrated each year by school children?

_____ school



Complete these sentences. For each, choose a verb from the word bank, then think of an indirect object to add. Write your answers on the lines. You may need to change the form of the verb.


write send give tell teach
bring pay sing read lend

14. I will _____ a book.
15. Jamie _____ a song.
16. Please _____ your new bicycle.
17. Dad will _____ a birthday present.
18. _____ a nursery rhyme.
19. Jed will _____ an invitation.
20. Rick, _____ a joke.
21. They should _____ the money they owe.
22. Margo should _____ a letter.
23. Please _____ some fresh bread.

Editing

Monique is designing a card that lists thoughtful things to do for others. Rewrite each sentence. Change each indirect object to refer to one of your friends or relatives.

Mistakes	
Capitalization	4
Spelling	7

24. Give someone a Gift.	
25. send a friend a postcard.	
26. Make a Grandparent a card.	
27. Read someone a story.	
28. thank a parent for something.	
29. Teach a younger person something.	
30. Help someone with something.	
31. Bring someone something.	

PHRASES



Become a Super Writer

Peter loves to eat. He is writing a report on what to eat for a healthful diet. Here are his notes about the food-guide pyramid.

at the base—foods from grains

When Peter started to write his report, he knew he needed to turn the phrases into sentences. This is what he wrote:

Foods ^{adjective} from grains ^{verb} may be ^{adverb} found at the pyramid's base.

The underlined groups of words in these sentences are phrases. Notice that a phrase can act as an adjective, a verb, or an adverb.

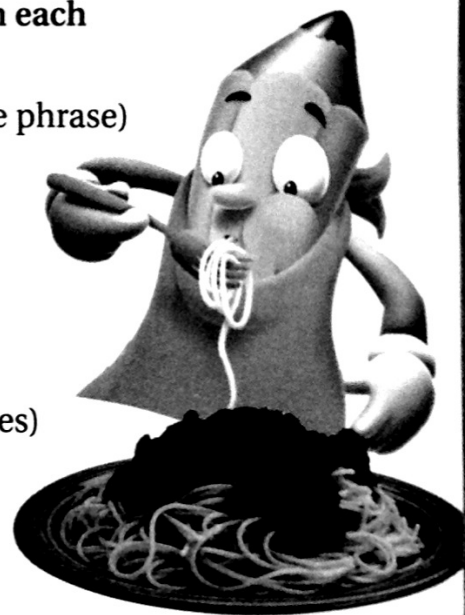
Definition

A **phrase** is a group of words that has meaning but that does not express a complete thought.

Your Turn

Use the clues in parentheses to find and underline the phrase in each sentence. Two sentences have two phrases.

1. The tip of the pyramid shows fats, oils, and sweets. (adjective phrase)
2. You should eat these foods sparingly. (verb phrase)
3. Milk and cheese come from animals. (adverb phrase)
4. Children should drink milk daily. (verb phrase)
5. Cholesterol is present in all animal foods. (adverb phrase)
6. A cup of yogurt is a good source of calcium. (adjective phrases)
7. French fries should not be eaten often. (verb phrase)
8. Breads and cereals are foods from grains. (adjective phrase)
9. Vegetables are sources of fiber. (adjective phrase)
10. Foods from plants supply vitamins and minerals. (adjective phrase)
11. Sugars come from ice cream and from heavy syrups. (adverb phrases)



Circle the numbers of the sentences with two phrases, and write them below.

12. A healthful diet includes ___ to ___ servings of bread, cereal, rice, and pasta each day.

Add a phrase to each sentence. The phrase can act as an adjective, a verb, or an adverb.

13. I eat pizza often. _____
14. I like bread, too. _____
15. Get some exercise. _____
16. Do not use salt. _____
17. Drink skim milk. _____
18. Consume less sugar. _____
19. Cut away the fat. _____
20. Butter has calories. _____
21. Spinach is a vegetable. _____
22. Use low-fat dressing. _____

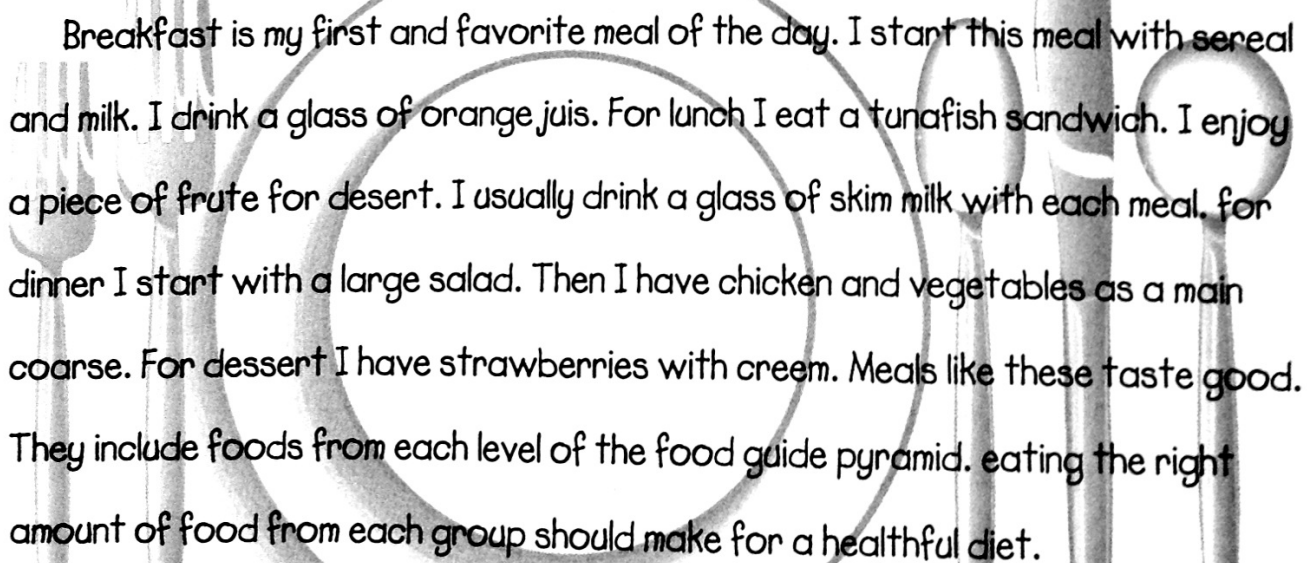
Editing

Peter created a menu based on the food guide pyramid. Correct the six misspelled words. Underline one verb phrase, double-underline one adjective phrase, and circle one adverb phrase.



Mistakes

Capitalization 2



Breakfast is *my first and favorite meal* of the day. I start this meal with *sereal* and *milk*. I drink a glass of *orange juis*. For lunch I eat a *tunafish* sandwich. I enjoy a piece of *frute* for *desert*. I usually drink a glass of *skim milk* with each meal. *for* dinner I start with a large salad. Then I have *chicken* and *vegetables* as a main *coarse*. For *dessert* I have *strawberries* with *creem*. Meals like these taste good. They include foods from each level of the food guide pyramid. *eating* the right amount of food from each group should *make* for a healthful diet.