

*ELG, 2<sup>nd</sup> handout, Nouns & Pronouns  
as objects and complements*

Action verbs that are transitive will normally be followed by a *direct object* to complete the meaning of the sentence. To find the direct object of a transitive verb, form the sentence into a question by placing **what** or **whom** after the simple subject and verb.

The sun warmed the earth.

*The sun warmed what or whom? The answer is "earth," so that is the direct object.*

*In the following sentences place parentheses around the prepositional phrases and draw arrows to show the word each modifies. If a sentence has a direct object, identify by writing DO above the appropriate word.*

1) My sister skates for the Flyers.

2) The hockey players asked many questions today.

3) Did you order donuts for the Canadians? *Also underline the simple verb phrase.*

4) Mug Mug sang in the backyard choir last year. *In what way does "last year" function?*

5) Can Kerry play the guitar?

6) Dylan liked Allie.

7). Allie thought deep thoughts about Dylan.

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*In the following examples I have placed brackets around dependent clauses. Looking within dependent clauses and the sentences as a whole, identify the function of each noun and pronoun. Write “S” to indicate subject; “DO” to indicate direct object; “IO” to indicate indirect object; “OC” to indicate object complement; “OP” to indicate object of a preposition, and “PN” to indicate predicate noun. Mark predicate adjectives with “PA.” For example:*

S      PN      OP      S                      DO  
Is he the cat [to whom they gave the medal]?

- 6) Give it to them [if they ask for it].
- 7) Zoey told you that story?
- 8) Who told her the story?
- 9) I don't know [who took the crullers].
- 10) To him [that hath] shall be given. *Interesting.*
- 11) The leader chooses [whomever he wishes].
- 12) The police promised leniency to [whoever would confess].
- 13) She's going with the boy [whom she met at the dance].

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14) The package [that I forgot to mail] was large.

15) The books in the package provided fun and advancement.

*Underline and label adjectives (A) and pronouns (P).*

16) This seems to be the end of everything.

17) Many of my friends have taken your viewpoint.

18) Anyone who comes early will have several choices.

19) Don't pay any attention to what he says.

20) All members must bring their credentials to every meeting.

21) More time has been spent on this problem than it's worth.

22) Little advantage derives from the slippery slope.

23) Which building did they rent for their new office?

24) Each of you knows something about that story.

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25) They hardly speak to each other.

*Underline verbs twice, simple subjects once. Identify any objects or complements of the verb: direct objects (DO), indirect objects (IO), and object complements (OC), predicate nouns (PN) and predicate adjectives (PA). Remember, prepositional phrases have objects, but they are objects of the prepositions, not objects of verbs.*

26) Cappy threw his brothers a party.

27) He named Tim publicist.

28) Each brother and many friends received invitations.

29) Walker hosted the Scots room.

30) He served Dalwhinney, Glenmorangie, and Knockando.

31) The British room served patrons grog and rum-based drinks.

32) Cue-ball dressed as Shakespeare with poofy shirt and frilly waistcoat.

33) Jimmy clapped Shakespeare on the back and handed him an ink-bottle.

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34) Everyone was happy.

35) Cue-ball in a state of grand delirium phoned his wife and described the evening.