Complements: Objects of Verbs

Teaching

Action verbs often need complements called direct objects and indirect objects to complete their meaning.

A direct object is a word or a group of words that names the receiver of the action of an action verb. It answers the question what or whom.

Dad read the comics. (What did Dad read?)

An indirect object is a word or group of words that tells to what or to whom, or for whom or for what an action is done. The indirect object usually comes between the verb and the direct object. Verbs that are often followed by an indirect object include ask, bring, give, hand, lend, make, offer, send, show, teach, tell, and write.

Dad read his daughter the comics. (To whom did Dad read the comics?)

Recognizing Objects of Verbs

15. Imagine a city under the sea.

In each sentence, if the underlined word is a direct object, write DO on the line. If it is an indirect object, write IO.

EXAMPLE The diver found a <u>shipwreck</u>. DO

1. The detective finally solved the <u>mystery</u> .	
2. The campers cooked their <u>food</u> over an open fire.	
3. The loud music gave me a headache.	
4. The rabbit in Alice in Wonderland carries a watch.	
5. Andrea showed my <u>family</u> the photographs from her trip.	
6. We offered <u>Jim</u> a ride to the game.	
7. The electric eel stuns its <u>enemies</u> with an electric shock.	
8. Remember to send your <u>hostess</u> a thank-you note.	
9. Mr. Weld baked his <u>daughter</u> a birthday cake.	
10. The monkeys climbed the tall <u>trees</u> in the rain forest.	
11. Candice told her <u>sister</u> a secret.	
12. You can rent <u>videos</u> at that store.	
3. The Bureau of the Mint manufactures all coins in the United States.	
4. Enrique taught his <u>dog</u> a new trick.	

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