

19.5

Indirect Objects (The Indirect Object, Compound Indirect Objects) • Practice 1

The Indirect Object An indirect object is a noun or pronoun that comes after an action verb and before a direct object. It names the person or thing that something is given to or done for.

INDIRECT OBJECTS		
IO	DO	
I gave	her	the pass (Gave the pass to whom? her)
IO	DO	
She told	Sal	the story (told the story to whom? Sal)

Compound Indirect Objects A compound indirect object is two or more nouns or pronouns that come after an action verb and before a direct object. It names the persons or things that something is given to or done for.

COMPOUND INDIRECT OBJECTS			
IO	IO	DO	
I gave	Bill and her	the passes	(gave the passes to whom? Bill, her)
IO	IO	DO	
She told	Sal and Mike	the story	(told the story to whom? Sal, Mike)

Exercise 1 Recognizing Indirect Objects. Each sentence below contains a single indirect object or a compound indirect object. Circle each indirect object below.

EXAMPLE: I brought Bill and him tickets.

- Please take Uncle John his medicine.
- I will give Jason and Jeffrey their instructions.
- Did you send Grandfather a postcard?
- Beverly will show the customer the new model.
- Can you teach us the game?
- The police told my parents and me the entire story.
- For Christmas, order Grandpa a new bathrobe.
- I will sell the developers just a part of the land.
- In the race you pass Josie the baton.
- The coach handed Marie and Louise their awards.

Exercise 2 Recognizing Direct and Indirect Objects. In the sentences below underline the direct objects and circle the indirect objects. Two sentences do not contain an indirect object.

EXAMPLE: Bring me the cookbook.

- From his college my brother sent me a sweatshirt.
- Pass your aunt the bowl of gravy.
- We are making our parents a surprise anniversary party.
- Did you bring your sister a new watch?
- I will give the detective the information he wants.

Indirect Objects (The Indirect Object, Compound Indirect Objects) • Practice 2

Exercise 1

Recognizing Indirect Objects. Each sentence contains a direct object and an indirect object. Underline each indirect object.

EXAMPLE: Finally, she told him the news.

1. The coach gave him a special award.
2. We sent her a bouquet of flowers.
3. After dinner they told us the good news.
4. Have you shown them the new puppy?
5. Lucille lent her brother her umbrella.
6. I later wrote my brother an explanation for my behavior.
7. Pass your sister the vegetables.
8. Vasco taught me several Portuguese words.
9. I will order you some breakfast now.
10. Did you really sell him your collection of old records?
11. Clara told them an unbelievable story about a cowboy.
12. The principal awarded Mr. Franklin an engraved plaque.
13. The children fed the birds small pieces of the stale bread.
14. Uncle Steve bought his niece a treat at the ice-cream store.
15. Jared handed his teacher the unfinished homework.

Exercise 2

Recognizing Compound Indirect Objects. Each sentence contains a compound indirect object. Underline nouns or pronouns that make up each one.

EXAMPLE: Will he tell Jay and Cathy the truth?

1. Give him and her an equal amount.
2. Have you told Sally or Beth that story?
3. We gave the birds and the fish new homes. ✗
4. Mother told the doctor and nurse our symptoms.
5. Did you get Marie and Steve their consent slips?
6. I gave the stairs and the porch a new coat of paint. ✗
7. Have you told Mother and him the wonderful news?
8. Please read Bob and them the directions to the store.
9. In the morning I will give Joyce and her father our decision.
10. Take Uncle Bill and Aunt Lila a cold drink.
11. Barbara sang Stuart and me a beautiful, sad song.
12. Would you show Carl and him the photograph?
13. The gardener told Sheila and James the bad news about the petunias.
14. Laura gave her brother and her sister a new board game.
15. Celeste made her mother and her father a solemn promise.