

20.3

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

The Direct Object A direct object is a noun, pronoun, or group of words acting as a noun that receives the action of a transitive verb.

DIRECT OBJECTS	
DO	
Mom <u>bought</u> new curtains for my bedroom.	
DO	
What color <u>did she buy</u> ? (Reworded: She did buy what color ?)	

Compound Direct Objects A compound direct object is more than one noun, pronoun, or group of words acting as a noun that receives the action of the same transitive verb.

COMPOUND DIRECT OBJECTS	
DO	DO
We <u>paint</u> the walls and woodwork .	
DO	DO
<u>Jim brought</u> records and a guitar to the party.	

Exercise 1

Recognizing Direct Objects. Draw a box around the direct object in each sentence.

EXAMPLE: Please set this vase in the center of the table.

1. What tapes did you bring?
2. Everyone enjoyed the performance.
3. Who will teach classes during Mr. Roper's leave of absence?
4. The owner of the missing dog has offered a reward.
5. Too much sugar may promote tooth decay.
6. Did you make this long-distance call to Denver?
7. Tanya likes basketball better than I do.
8. The campers took a wrong turn.
9. On the day of the test, bring two sharpened pencils.
10. Phyllis's parents surprised her with a new bike.

Exercise 2

Recognizing Compound Direct Objects. Draw a box around the nouns or pronouns that make up each compound direct object.

EXAMPLE: Would you rather have sausage or pepperoni on your pizza?

1. Mandy plays both basketball and soccer.
2. The new album brought fame and fortune to the young singer.
3. Should we serve the soup or the salad first?
4. The contestant won not only the car but also a cash jackpot.
5. Would you rather play chess or checkers?
6. Did the painter use a roller or a brush?
7. The chef will prepare pancakes or omelets.
8. The shopper bought both the knee-high boots and the matching purse.
9. For a bedtime snack, Fran has a sandwich and milk every night.
10. Are you taking biology or chemistry next term?

20.3**Direct Objects (The Direct Object, Compound Direct Objects) • Practice 2****Exercise 1****Recognizing Direct Objects.** Underline the direct object in each sentence.**EXAMPLE:** Most people own umbrellas.

(1) Umbrellas have a long history. (2) Even the ancient Egyptians used them. (3) The umbrella symbolized royal and religious power to the Egyptians. (4) Assyrian tablets from 1350 B.C. show an umbrella-shaded king. (5) The early Greeks also used the umbrella symbol. (6) Religious festivals and parades featured it prominently. (7) The later Greeks used the umbrella shape more practically. (8) They invented the sunshade. (9) They even developed a sunshade hat. (10) Later still, the Romans used parasols.

Exercise 2**Recognizing Compound Direct Objects.** Underline the nouns or pronouns that make up each compound direct object.**EXAMPLE:** Maggie knitted a hat and mittens.

1. Don't forget the hammer and nails.
2. Mike bought a new jacket, shirt, and trousers.
3. The fire destroyed both the main house and the barn.
4. Who invited Joan and Jack?
5. That factory produces cars and trucks.
6. The baby doesn't eat fruit or cereal yet.
7. Which shrubs and bushes did the gardener trim?
8. The recipe requires cinnamon and sugar.
9. The waiter overlooked you and me.
10. Mom planted cabbage, tomatoes, lettuce, and peppers.
11. We read the bulletin board and the pamphlets carefully.
12. Susan had salad and soup for lunch.
13. The dog chased woodchucks and rabbits all over the field.
14. Caroline bought roses and carnations for the centerpiece.
15. My duties that summer included filing and word processing.
16. On our road trip, we visited Montana and Idaho.
17. William Shakespeare wrote sonnets and plays.
18. The mechanic replaced the points and plugs in the car.
19. Mabel added sprouts and radishes to the salad.
20. Winifred is studying history and literature.

20.3

Direct Objects (Direct Object or Object of a Preposition?) • Practice 1

Direct Object or Object of a Preposition A direct object is never the noun or pronoun at the end of a prepositional phrase.

DIRECT OBJECTS AND PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES	
DO	
Marge and Steve	played croquet . (played <i>what?</i> croquet)
DO	PREP PHRASE
They	played croquet in the back yard. (played <i>what?</i> croquet)
PREP PHRASE	
They	played in the back yard. (played <i>what?</i> no answer)

Exercise 1 **Distinguishing Between Direct Objects and Objects of Prepositions.** Draw a box around only direct objects in the sentences. Do not box any objects of prepositions.

EXAMPLE: We joined Kelly and Tim for a picnic.

1. Please put the fruit into the refrigerator.
2. Several new families moved into our neighborhood.
3. A true story inspired the novel about Robinson Crusoe.
4. Alexander Selkirk survived on a desert island.
5. We changed planes in Chicago.
6. Betsy chose fruit instead of ice cream for dessert.
7. Linus carries his blanket everywhere.
8. We watched the sunset from the porch.
9. Eventually the cowboy overcame his fear of horses.
10. The guest of honor arrived in time for dinner.

Exercise 2 **Writing Sentences with Direct Objects.** Add words to each sentence beginning below to make a complete sentence. Be sure each sentence ending includes a direct object.

EXAMPLE: The singer performed an old-time favorite.

1. My sister broke _____.
2. The teacher gave Ian _____.
3. We all enjoyed _____.
4. Some of the children followed _____.
5. Have you read _____.
6. My friend Jessica wrote _____.
7. The guests ate _____.
8. Robins built _____.
9. Our team won _____.
10. Please put _____.

20.3 Direct Objects (Direct Object or Object of a Preposition?) • Practice 2

Exercise 1 Distinguishing Between Direct Objects and Objects of Prepositions. Write the direct object in each sentence. If a sentence does not have one, write *none*.

EXAMPLE: People have used umbrellas for a long time. umbrellas

(1) The word umbrella has come to us from the Romans. (2) The Latin word *umbra* translates into our word “shade.” (3) The Romans used umbrellas for protection against the sun. (4) People often carried them to chariot races. (5) Romans sometimes dyed the umbrellas with the colors of their favorite chariot team. (6) Eventually umbrellas at chariot races caused a public uproar. (7) They often blocked the view of other spectators. (8) The Roman emperor Domitian finally settled the dispute about umbrellas. (9) By his decree only sunshade hats could be used at the public games. (10) No one with an umbrella could attend the games.

- | | | |
|----------|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 5. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 6. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 7. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 4. _____ | | |

Writing Application Writing Sentences with Direct Objects. Use each subject and verb to write a sentence with a direct object. Then circle each direct object.

EXAMPLE: kittens played

The kittens played **tag** with each other.

1. police will escort _____
2. truck dented _____
3. Mr. Lopez described _____
4. elephant trampled _____
5. water ruined _____
6. Eileen organized _____
7. Craig should have won _____
8. grasshoppers destroy _____
9. detectives found _____
10. noise shook _____