

LESSON 13

Verbs, Objects, and Subject Complements

A **direct object** follows an action verb and tells who or what receives the action of the verb.

Chris told a secret. (*Told* is an action verb. *Secret* is a direct object.)

An **indirect object** follows an action verb and tells to whom or what the action of the verb is done.

Chris told Bill a secret. (The indirect object *Bill* tells to whom Chris told the secret. An indirect object comes before the direct object.)

A **subject complement** follows a linking verb and tells who or what the subject is or is like.

Maggie felt sick. (*Felt* is a linking verb, and *sick* is a subject complement that describes Maggie.)

Maggie is the third student in the first row. (*Is* is a linking verb, and *student* is a subject complement telling who Maggie is.)

- A noun used as a subject complement is a predicate noun. An adjective used as a subject complement is a predicate adjective.

Ⓐ For items 1–3, write the subject complement in each sentence. For items 4–6, write the direct objects and one indirect object. Label each answer *SC*, *DO*, or *IO*.

1. The shore was rocky.
2. The seawater tasted salty.
3. The boys were the champions in sports.
4. Someone painted lines on the sides of the pool.
5. Lee kicked her legs in the water.
6. The instructor gave his students diving lessons after class.

✓ Write each sentence. Circle direct objects and underline any indirect objects.

11. A pelican fed its babies fish.
12. Mom and I watched the large seabirds with amusement.
13. The diving pelican catches fish in its mouth.
14. Seagulls watch us hungrily from the beach.
15. We spread a picnic on our blanket.
16. Julie throws the gulls some crusts from her sandwich.
17. A mob of gulls surrounds us almost immediately.
18. Brent frowns and gives Julie a dirty look.
19. The gulls give our party their full attention.
20. I admire their cool, calm determination.

