



## Passing the Puck: Direct Objects in Sentences Part 3

A direct object is a noun or pronoun that receives the action of a verb. Put another way, the verb acts upon the direct object. It is important to remember that a direct object only appears when there is an action verb in the sentence. If the verb is not an action verb, then there is no direct object.

### Example 1: Jack was a star in the game.

**Question: Jack was a what? Answer: star**

This example shows how the what question must be asked only for active verbs. In the sentence the subject is *Jack*, the verb is *was*. *Was* is not an action verb; it is a verb of being, or a linking verb, so there is no action for a direct object to receive. There is no direct object in Example 1. The noun *star* is called an subject complement, which renames or give information about the subject.

### Example 2: The team named the star of the game.

In Example 2 the verb *named* is an action verb, so let's ask the question:

**Question: The team named the what? Answer: star**

In Example 2 *star* is a direct object.

Read each of the sentences below. Write the verb in the blank. If there is a direct object in the sentence, circle it. Remember to look for action verbs to determine a direct object.

1. Jack became captain of the team. \_\_\_\_\_
2. The coach dismissed practice early. \_\_\_\_\_
3. This game is the final game of the season. \_\_\_\_\_
4. As captain, Jack led the team onto the ice. \_\_\_\_\_
5. She felt proud of her team. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Ian hit the puck with his stick. \_\_\_\_\_
7. We are the best fans in the world! \_\_\_\_\_
8. The team won the game in the last 10 seconds. \_\_\_\_\_



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### Example 1: Jack was a star in the game.

**Question: Jack was a what? Answer: star**

This example shows how the what question must be asked only for active verbs. In the sentence the subject is *Jack*, the verb is *was*. *Was* is not an action verb; it is a verb of being, or a linking verb, so there is no action for a direct object to receive. There is no direct object in Example 1. The noun *star* is called an subject complement, which renames or give information about the subject.

### Example 2: The team named the star of the game.

In Example 2 the verb *named* is an action verb, so let's ask the question:

**Question: The team named the what? Answer: star**

In Example 2 *star* is a direct object.

Read each of the sentences below. Write the verb in the blank. If there is a direct object in the sentence, circle it. Remember to look for action verbs to determine a direct object.

- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| 1. Jack became captain of the team.                     | <u>became</u>    |
| 2. The coach dismissed <u>practice</u> early.           | <u>dismissed</u> |
| 3. This game is the final game of the season.           | <u>is</u>        |
| 4. As captain, Jack led the <u>team</u> onto the ice.   | <u>led</u>       |
| 5. She felt proud of her team.                          | <u>felt</u>      |
| 6. Ian hit the <u>puck</u> with his stick.              | <u>hit</u>       |
| 7. We are the best fans in the world!                   | <u>are</u>       |
| 8. The team won the <u>game</u> in the last 10 seconds. | <u>won</u>       |