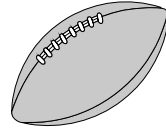


3.2 Direct Objects

A **direct object** is the noun or pronoun that receives the direct action of a verb. The verb used with a direct object is always an **action verb** and is called a **transitive verb**.

Jack threw the **football**.

Marcus pushed **Corey**.



To identify the **direct object**, say the **subject** and **verb** followed by **what** or **whom**.

Jack threw **what**? Marcus pushed **whom**? In the first sentence, the noun **football** is the **direct object** because it tells you **what** Jack **threw**. In the second sentence, the noun **Corey** is the **direct object** because it tells you **whom** Marcus **pushed**.

More examples:

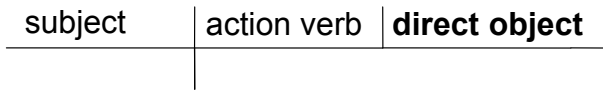
Daniel dropped the **hammer**.

↑ ↑
action verb *direct object*

Mom hugged **Aunt Margaret**.

↑ ↑
action verb *direct object*

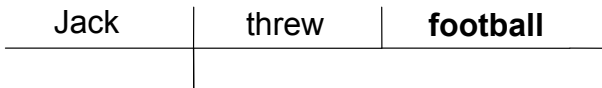
A sentence with a direct object is **diagrammed** like this:



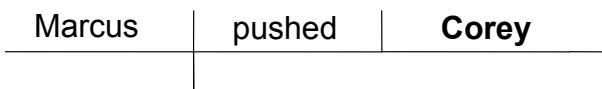
The subject, action verb, and **direct object** are placed on the same line. The **direct object** is separated from the action verb by a short vertical line that does not break through the horizontal line.

Examples:

Jack threw the **football**.



Marcus pushed **Corey**.



7.3 Prepositional Phrases Used as Adjectives or Adverbs

A **prepositional phrase** can act as an **adjective** or an **adverb**.

An **adjective prepositional phrase** tells **what kind** or **which one** about the **noun** or **pronoun** it describes. An **adjective phrase** must come right after the noun or pronoun it modifies.

The *car in the driveway* is blue.

The prepositional phrase **in the driveway** is an **adjective phrase** because it tells **which one** about the noun **car**.

More examples:

The *letter from Grandma* arrived.

From Grandma tells **which one** about the noun **letter**.

I bought a *hat with red spots*.

With red spots tells **what kind** about the noun **hat**.

An **adverb prepositional phrase** tells **how**, **when**, or **where** about the **verb** it describes. An **adverb phrase** can come at the **beginning** of the sentence, at the **end** of the sentence, or right **after the verb**.

The girls *raced* **around the tree**.

The prepositional phrase **around the tree** is an **adverb phrase** because it tells **where** about the verb **raced**.

More examples:

The horse *galloped* **with great speed**.

With great speed tells **how** about the verb **galloped**.

After the game, the boys *celebrated*.

After the game tells **when** about the verb **celebrated**.

Dad *worked* **in his office**.

In his office tells **where** about the verb **worked**.