

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. \_\_\_\_\_

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.

became

2. The coach dismissed practice early.

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3. This game is the final game of the season.

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4. As captain, Jack led the team onto the ice.

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6. Ian hit the puck with his stick.

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7. We are the best fans in the world!

are

8. The team won the game in the last 10 seconds.

won