

The image shows the cover of a spiral-bound notebook. The cover is a light beige or cream color with a subtle, repeating pattern of the words 'The Book of Grammar' in a small, faint font. The spiral binding is on the left side, with the metal wire visible. The text is centered on the cover.

# The Book of Grammar

## Lesson Three

Sophomore Honors English  
Mr. McBride

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# What you should know by the end of Lesson Three

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- The Five Principal (and Two Other Possible) functions of a noun in a sentence:
  - subject
  - predicate noun
  - direct object
  - indirect object
  - object of a preposition

*-also-*

  - appositive
  - direct address



# A noun can be used in different ways in a sentence:

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- As a subject
- As a predicate noun
- As a direct object
- As an indirect object
- As an object of a preposition
- As an appositive
- In direct address



# Subject of the verb

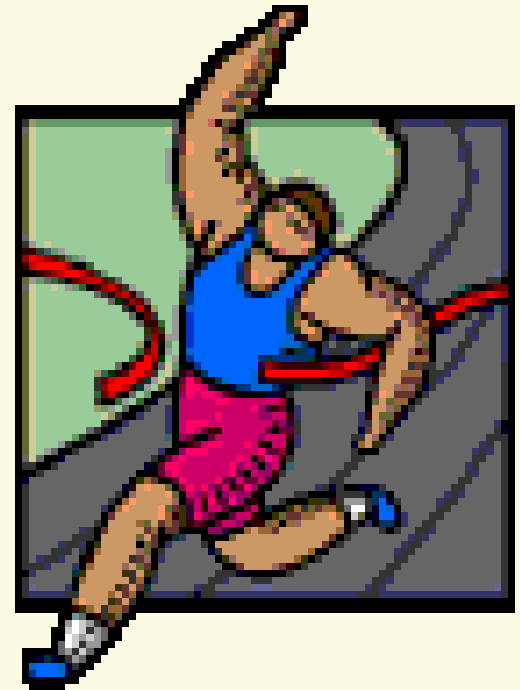
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- The subject of a sentence (or clause) is the noun (or pronoun or noun phrase) that precedes and governs the verb.
- For Example:
  - **Pauline** kicked the basketball.
  - The **Los Angeles Times** reported on the president's dilemma.

# Find the subjects in these sentences:

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- “The race was close.”
  - *What* was close? Race
- “Jim won the race.”
  - *Who* won the race? Jim
- “Jim pumped his fist.”
  - *Who* pumped? Jim



# Predicate Noun

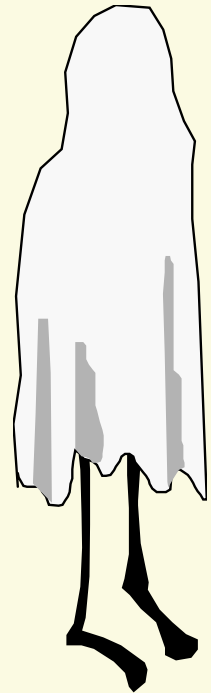
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- A predicate noun is normally placed after the verb: it answers the question *what?* or *who?* and it refers to or renames the subject of the sentence.
- Predicate nouns can only follow linking verbs.
  - “The king was a tyrant.”
  - “The postmaster is John Smith.”

# Predicate noun continued...

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- Predicate nouns are called predicate nouns because they are nouns located in the predicate of the sentence that refer to or rename the subject of the sentence.
  - “My uncle was a captain.”
  - “The director was a fool.”
  - “For Halloween, Jim was a ghost.”





# There are three ways that a noun can be an **object**:

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- A noun can be a direct object
- A noun can be an indirect object
- A noun can be the object of a preposition

Before examining this further, lets look at a definition of what an **object** is....

# The object of a sentence

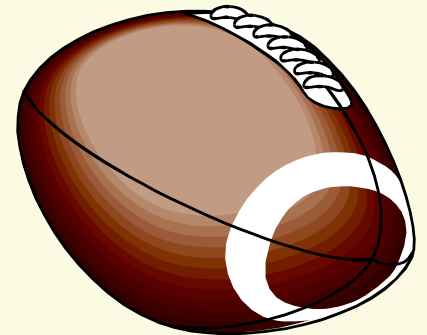
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- A noun that is acted on by a verb is an **object**.
- If the verb is *give*, for example, the object could be the thing you give or the person the thing is given to:
  - “Cassandra gives Michael the gift.”
    - *Michael*, the recipient of Cassandra’s generosity, and *gift*, the thing given, are both objects in the sentence.

# Direct Object

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- A **direct object** is a noun that directly receives the action expressed by the verb.
  - “Harry throws the ball.”
  - **The ball** is what is thrown; it receives the action of the verb, *throws*, so it is the **direct object** in the sentence.



# Direct object continued...

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- The direct object is normally placed after the verb. It answers the question *what* or *whom* received the action of the verb.
  - “Jasmine kicked the ball.”
    - What was kicked?
  - “The bee stung the student.”
    - The bee stung whom?

# Indirect Object

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- An **indirect object** is a noun in the predicate that usually tells *to whom* or *for whom* the action of the verb is done. It most often precedes the direct object.
- Harry is the indirect object in both of the following sentences:
  - The postman left Harry a letter.
  - Jim gave Harry a ride to the game.

## Examples of nouns used as direct and indirect objects:

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- Harry gave Sally (indirect object) the flu (direct object).
  - To find the direct object, ask yourself “What was given?” The flu.
  - To find the indirect object ask yourself “To what or whom was the flu given?” Sally.
- Think of it as a game of catch; you throw a direct object to an indirect object.
  - Harry threw Sally the ball.

# Object of a Preposition

- A noun that is the object of a prepositional phrase is the object of the preposition:
  - The pumpkin is in the yard.
  - Harry is in the pumpkin patch.
  - The pumpkin is in the yard.
  - Harry is in the pumpkin patch.
  - Jack's home is in the pumpkin patch.
  - The pumpkin is in the yard.



# Appositive

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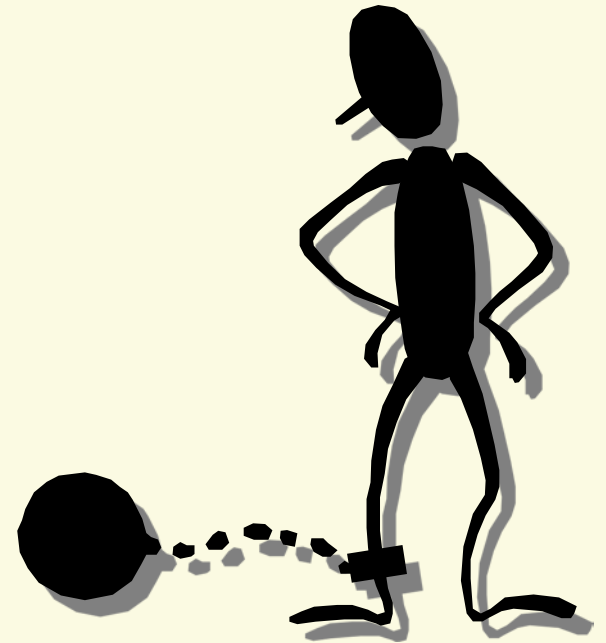
- An appositive is a word or group of words that means the same thing as the noun it follows. Usually it identifies or explains the noun.
- An appositive is **not** connected to the subject by a linking verb.



An example of a noun used as an appositive:

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- “Tom Walker, a foolish man, sold his soul to the devil.”



# Direct Address

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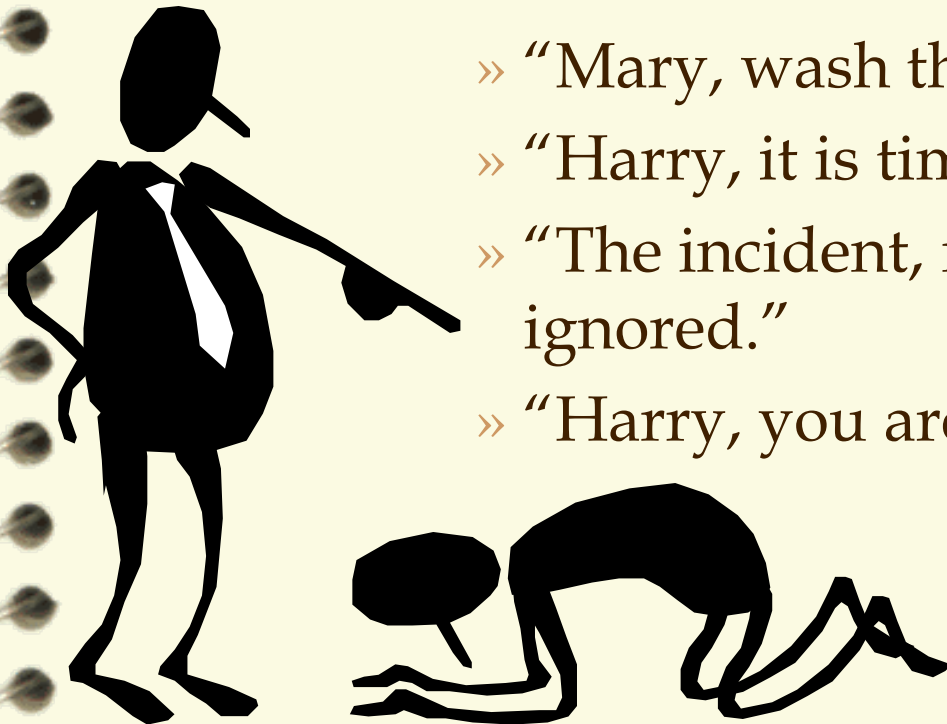
- A noun is used in direct address when it names the person being addressed in the sentence.

» “Mary, wash the dishes!”

» “Harry, it is time for dinner.”

» “The incident, my friends, must not be ignored.”

» “Harry, you are an incompetent oaf!”



# The Process

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- *The process* is a method to follow for identifying the different roles that nouns are playing in a sentence. You should memorize *the process* and be able to apply it to any sentence.



## *The Process continued...*

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1. Identify all prepositional phrases and remove them from the sentence
  - If the noun is in the prepositional phrase it is an **object of the preposition**
2. Find the verb
  - Action or Linking? → If linking, is the noun a **predicate noun**?
3. Who/ what does the verb?
  - This is the **subject**.

## *The Process continued...*

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4. Ask the following question:

“What was *{insert verb here}*?”

- The answer to this question is the **direct object**

5. To who/for whom was the action of the verb done?

- This is the **Indirect Object**

## If there are still unidentified nouns:

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- Does the noun in question directly follow another noun (no linking verb) and rename the noun?
  - This is an **appositive**.
- Is the noun the name of somebody who is being addressed?
  - This is a noun in **direct address**.

# Application of *the process*

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Try to apply the process to the following sentences:

- Jill, a strong player, kicked Jack the ball at recess.
- Sabrina gave Bob the measles.
- Jack was a poor man, over his head in debt.

What you should know at the end of this lesson.

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- You should know how to identify the following uses of nouns:
  - subject, predicate noun, direct object, indirect object, object of the preposition, appositive, direct address
- You should know what *the process* is and how to apply it to sentences



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The end of Lesson Three