



## Verbs with two objects

Some sentences follow a special structure that can only be used with particular verbs like: ‘give’, ‘send’, and ‘lend’.

We call these verbs double-object verbs because they can take on two objects without a preposition: verb + **object** + **object**

→ **Give**      **me**      the      **book.**  
      ↓            ↓                    ↓  
      verb      object                    object

So even though we can say, “**Give** me the book.”, we can’t say, “**Borrow** me the book.”

## What are Double-Object Verbs?

Double-object verbs are verbs that can have two objects: an indirect object without a preposition and direct object: verb + indirect object + direct object.

→ Show + me + the book.

The indirect object is a person or group of people and the direct object is a thing or things:

→ Did you **send them the report**?

It can be used with verbs – ‘give’, ‘send’, ‘lend’, but not with ‘recommend’, ‘borrow’ and ‘explain’.

## Structuring Sentences in English

Let’s start by looking at a common sentence structure in English:

Subject	Verb	Direct Object	Preposition	Indirect Object
I	sent	the book	to	him.

Now, observe the following points:

- 1 ‘**The book**’ is the direct object of the verb ‘**sent**’.
- 2 The direct object follows the verb without a preposition.
- 3 ‘**Him**’ is the indirect object of the verb ‘**sent**’.
- 4 The indirect object follows the verb with a preposition (to).

## An Alternate Sentence Structure

Some verbs can follow a different structure from this traditional one — only some, not all.

The structure is:

Subject	Verb	Indirect Object	Direct Object
I	sent	him	the book.

The indirect object comes after the verb (without a preposition), followed by the direct object.

These verbs cannot be followed by two objects:

say	suggest	recommend	explain	describe	borrow	push	take	donate
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With the following verbs, we can only use *for* to introduce the indirect object as beneficiary.

**For** – make, cook, pour, keep, save, book, buy, cut, win, paint, prepare, find

We normally use *to* to introduce the indirect object as a receiver after the following words.

To – sell, read, post, promise, send, give, pay, lend, show, offer, pass, tell

### Clauses of result, concession, purpose

**Clauses of result** – An adverb **clause of result** or consequence is used to say what happens or what may happen as a **result** of the action mentioned in the main **clause**. The chief conjunction used to introduce adverb **clauses of result** are: ‘so that’, ‘in order that’, ‘so...that’ and ‘such...that’.

→ He speaks very little Chinese, **so** I talked to him through an interpreter.

#### Examples:

- 1 Such a (noun) + adjective + singular countable noun + that  
→ Mrs Jean is **such a good teacher that** all her students love her.
- 2 So + adjective + that  
→ The meals were **so awful that** we didn’t eat it.
- 3 So + few/little/much/many + noun + that  
→ There was **so much traffic** on the highways **that** it took him an hour to reach home.
- 4 So + adverb + that  
→ The girls were talking **so loudly that** the librarian asked them to leave.
- 5 Such + a lot of + noun + that  
→ Jim had **such a lot of work that** he had to postpone his plans.

**Clauses of concession** – A clause which begins with ‘although’ or ‘even though’ expresses an idea that suggests the opposite of the main part of the sentence.

#### Examples:

- Although/Even though + clause  
→ **Although/Even though** he has lived in Korea for six years, he still can’t speak Korean.
- Though + clause (informal)  
→ **Though** Tina has been warned, she wants to take risk./She’s been warned. She wants to take the risk, **though**.
- Despite/In spite of + noun/-ing form  
→ She came to work **despite** her fever.  
→ She came to work **in spite of** having a fever.
- While/Whereas/But + clause  
→ He did well in the test **while/whereas/but** John didn’t.
- However/Nevertheless + clause  
→ Ron fell off his bike. **However/Nevertheless**, he wasn’t hurt.

**Clauses of Purpose** – **Purpose clauses** are subordinate **clauses** which answer the question, “Why?” or “For what purpose?” Conjunctions that are used in purpose clauses are: ‘in order that’, ‘in order to’, ‘so as to’, ‘so that’, ‘for the purpose of’.

Structures	Examples
so that + subject + can/may/will	Please shut the fence <b>so that the dog can’t</b> come in.
so that + subject + could/might/would	He talked quietly <b>so that nobody could</b> hear him.
in case + present tense	Ulya will take an umbrella <b>in case it rains</b> .
in case + past tense	He gave me his phone number <b>in case I needed</b> help.