Subject – the thing that does the verb (verbing)

Direct object – the thing that gets acted upon by the verb (verbed)

Indirect object – gets indirectly affected by the interaction between the subject and direct object. *Not* doing the verb, *not* getting acted upon by the verb.

We bring pizza to our friends. 🡨 no indirect object, preposition

vs.

We bring our friends pizza. 🡨 indirect object = friends (they aren’t doing the bringing, they aren’t getting brought, but they are the ones to whom the direct object is being brought)

I buy food for the dog. 🡨 no indirect object, preposition

Vs.

I buy the dog food. 🡨 indirect object = dog (it isn’t doing the buying, it isn’t getting bought, but it’s the thing for whom the direct object is being bought)

Try identifying the subjects, direct objects, and/or indirect objects in these example sentences. There may not always be an indirect object! Sometimes not even a direct object.

We have a huge rat in our house. I have a nice gift for my friend.

Subject: Subject:

Direct object: Direct object:

Indirect object: Indirect object:

My sister drives to the store. He gave my sister a used car.

Subject: Subject:

Direct object: Direct object:

Indirect object: Indirect object

We got a new rug for our house. You gave the animals a better life.

Subject: Subject:

Direct object: Direct object:

Indirect object: Indirect object:

The teacher gave them all good grades. Where is the new phone?

Subject: Subject:

Direct object: Direct object:

Indirect object: Indirect object:

He brought her some marinara sauce. The girl saw her phone on the counter.

Subject: Subject:

Direct object: Direct object:

Indirect object: Indirect object: