



From William Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*, act II, scene i:

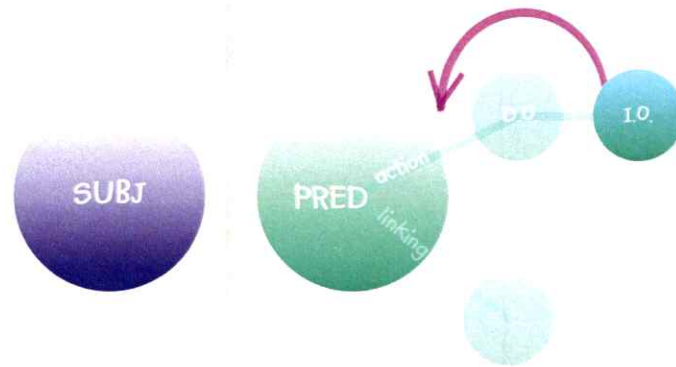
	Where did you study all this goodly speech?							
Parts of Speech	adv.	v.	pron.	v.	adj.	adj.	adj.	n.
Parts of Sentence	AVP		subj.	AVP		D.O.		
Phrases	no phrases							
Clauses	-----independent clause----- a simple interrogative sentence							

Here is an exciting sentence from Shakespeare, spoken by Kate in *The Taming of the Shrew*. The subject splits the main verb from its helping verb; in an interrogative verb construction, we would not say, "Where you studied this speech?" Note once again the powerful ending with the direct object last as a single stressed syllable.

Verbisection:

Regular or irregular: regular
 Action, linking, or being: action
 Tense: past
 Person: second
 Number: singular
 Mood: indicative
 Transitive or intransitive: transitive
 Voice: active

second person



The indirect object is the noun or pronoun that is located between the action verb and the direct object and that is indirectly affected by the action.

Indirect object: An indirect object is a noun, object pronoun, or indefinite pronoun located between the action verb and the direct object. The indirect object is indirectly affected by the action verb's action on the direct object. The actual sequence of parts is **S—AVP—I.O.—D.O.** Notice that if there is an indirect object, there must be a direct object, and so the action verb is still transitive. *She told **him** the anecdote.*

To find the indirect object: When the subject has an action verb, first look to see if there is a direct object that receives the action. If there is, then look before it, between the direct object and the action verb, to see if there is an indirect object. It cannot be the object of a preposition.

Hamlet gave Polonius an equivocal answer.
 subject AVP I.O. D.O.

Almost always, the indirect object will be found in this middle place. A sentence such as *Macbeth wrote a letter to his wife* has no indirect object; *letter* is the direct object, and *wife* is only the object of a preposition. There must first be a direct object for the indirect object to be present, but the indirect object cannot come after the direct object. See the diagram at the top of this page.