

Unit 19 - The Three To's

Lesson 1 - The indirect object

Day 1:

Discuss

- **The boy gives a flower to the girl.**
The flower is being given. It is the direct object. The girl is receiving what is being given. She is the **indirect object**.
- Indirect objects often appear when the verbs **to give, to show, or to tell** are in a sentence. The thing being given, shown, or told is the direct object. The one **to whom** the thing is being given, shown, or told is the indirect object.
- Develop a symbol for your sentence diagrams to represent the indirect object, perhaps an arrow looping over from the direct object to the indirect object, indicating that this object is going to this recipient.
- The word **to** will not necessarily be in the sentence.
He gave **her** the book.
- We have already studied two structures that use the English word **to** in front of them.

The infinitive: **to love**

A prepositional phrase: **to the store**

The indirect object is a third structure, yet another kind of **to**.

Indirect object: give it **to her**

In English we use the same word **to** for these very different uses, but other languages do not do this. Other languages will have entirely different ways of signaling the infinitive, the preposition, and the indirect object. It is important, therefore, to know which **to** we are using in English, because we will not simply translate this word **to** into a foreign language. We will learn a different structure for each of these three things.

Activity

Mix up the following sentences, and ask students to figure out which type of **to** is being used.

The indirect object

We have given three examples **to** the teacher.

Will you tell that **to** the others?

She used to show her homework **to** her mother.

The infinitive

I told you **to** come as soon as you could.

Please show her how **to** do it.

Did she give him the answer **to** write on the test?

The preposition

Douglas and Colin went **to** the toy store.

Come over **to** my house tomorrow.

She looked **to** the stars for her wish.

Discuss

Develop tests to help figure out which is which:

e.g. the infinitive **to** will be followed by a verb, the prepositional phrase will usually be describing motion towards a place

Homework
pages 143-144

Day 2:

Activity

Write stories on p.145.

Consider recreating the hyperlink story activity from Unit 16, but have students link to documents that identify which kind of **to** is being used instead of **to** tenses.