

Part II. The Object

The Object is a secondary part of the sentence which completes a verb or sometimes an adjective and denotes state or thing. *E.g. He closed the door.*

The object can be: a) **direct** which shows a person or a thing directly affected by the action. (I helped my brother.): b) **indirect** which shows to whom the action is directed, (кому? кем?) - She gave him an interesting book to read; c) **prepositional**.

If there are more than two objects in the sentence the word order is the following: a) In Ob + D Ob - The teacher told the students a story, b) D Obj + Prep Obj. - The teacher told a story to the students.

The Attribute is a secondary part of the sentence which qualifies a noun, a pronoun, or any other part of speech. *E.g. She is a beautiful girl.*

The Adverbial Modifier is a secondary part of the sentence which modifies a verb, an adjective or an adverb. According to this we distinguish:

- the adverbial modifier of **time**: We shall try it t omorrow.
- the adverbial modifier of **place**: He has spies everywhere.
- the adverbial modifier of **manner**: He walked q uickly.
- the adverbial modifier of **purpose**- He got up from the sofa for her to sit down.

1. The object is a secondary part of the sentence which stands in close relation to a verb, completing, restricting or in any other way modifying its meaning. The object refers to a) a finite verb — the predicate of the sentence or b) to a non-finite part of the verb — the infinitive, gerund or participle in any of their functions in the sentence:

a) ...the car brought his father and mother home. (Galsworthy.) The old lady looked at the child... (Jerome). The afternoon was devoted to sewing. (Brontë.)

b) He strolled down the new rose garden to meet them. (Galsworthy.) The gardeners had been up since dawn, moving the lawns and sweeping them... (Mansfield.) "It had been just splendid meeting you here." (Galsworthy.)

2. Some adjectives and (rarely) nouns of verbal or adjectival nature (promise, surprise, hope, doubt, trust, possibility, certainty, etc.) may also have an object:

Adjectives:

Tom was good to her. (Eliot.) He was conscious of having acted very fairly. (Eliot.) He was very fond of opera... (Galsworthy.) The sky was full of stars... (Conrad.) Hans was clever at carving in wood... (Dodge.) There was a wind like ice. (Mansfield.) Hans was delighted with his skates... (Dodge.) Everybody was tip-top full with happiness. (Lawrence.)

3. The object may be expressed by:

a) A noun:

In a few weeks she had grubbed out the weeds and cleared the neglected paths.

b) A pronoun:

He gazed at her in some surprise.

c) A numeral:

They found the two stretched side by side on their deckchairs.

d) A substantivized adjective:

"I'll do my best to make you comfortable."

e) An infinitive:

He had promised to join her before the summer...

f) A gerund:

They talked of going somewhere else afterwards.

g) A syntactical word-combination:

"You'll see a good deal of that child... He watched the two of them... (Galsworthy.) "I have avoided saying one word to either of you or to Esther," said Mr. Jarn-dyce. (Dickens.) "...they have quite a number of girls about your age here. (Cusack.)

h) A complex object (see "The Complex Object", p. 371)

Kinds of Objects

In Modern English we find the following kinds of objects:

The object is a secondary part of the sentence which completes or restricts the meaning of a verb or sometimes an adjective, a word denoting state, or a noun.

Haviland closed **the door**. (Wilson)

I was very proud **of it**. (Braddon)

He had never liked Soames. He now held him responsible **for Bosinney's death**. (Galsworthy)

"You are afraid **of dying**," said Bing. (Heym)

Ways of expressing the object.

The object is expressed by the following parts of speech:

1. A noun in the common case.

We ought to give him **a present**, too. (Mansfield)

2. A pronoun (personal in the objective case, possessive, defining, reflexive, demonstrative, indefinite).

C o k a n e. Our little discussion has given me quite an appetite.

Trench. It has taken **mine** away. (Shaw)

"I must do my best **for her**," thought Jolyon. (Galsworthy)

You ought to know **all** about statues and things. **(Galsworthy)**

What will you do **with yourself**? (Galsworthy)

"Who gave you **that**?" he asked. (Bennett)

... she's alone in the world, and she must have **someone** to take care of her. (Maugham)