Direct and Indirect Objects

Language 5
The **direct object** is a noun or a pronoun that answers the question **whom** or **what** after an action verb.
Some Olympic athletes earned long-lasting *fame*.

In this sentence *fame* is the direct object. *Fame* answers the question *what* after the verb earned. What did some Olympic athletes earn? The answer is *fame*, the direct object.
The book describes Olympic heroes.

In this sentence *heroes* is the direct object. *Heroes* answers the question *whom* after the verb describes. Whom does the book describe? The answer is *heroes*, the direct object.
The sentences below contain **direct objects**.

1. Nadia Comaneci earned three gold **medals**.
2. She established a special **record**.
3. A 10 represents a perfect **mark**.
4. Her coach discovered the young **athlete** during a school visit.
5. The six-year-old was doing **cartwheels**.
6. The coach invited **Nadia** to his gymnastics school.
7. She tried difficult gymnastic **moves** without fear.
The **indirect object** tells to whom, for whom, to what, or for what an action is done. The **indirect object** comes **before** the **direct object** and **after** the **action verb** in a sentence.
The press gives Olympic athletes much attention.

In this sentence attention is the direct object. It answers the question what after the verb gives. What does the press give? It gives attention, the direct object. Athletes is the indirect object. It answers the question to whom the action was done.
Bela Karolyi taught young gymnasts moves. In this sentence moves is the direct object. It answers the question what after the verb taught. What did Bela Karolyi teach? Bela Karolyi taught moves, the direct object. Gymnasts is the indirect object. It answers the question to whom the action was done.
The sentences below contain **direct** and **indirect** objects.

1. He awarded his **pupils** trophies.
2. He offered **Nadia** good **training**.
3. Nadia showed the **world** her amazing **skills**.
4. The judges first gave **Nadia** a perfect **score**.
5. Her three gold medals earned **her** worldwide **fame**.
6. She now teaches young **people** competitive **gymnastics**.