Grammar Reference

Grammar Reference: Placement of direct and indirect objects

Direct and indirect objects usually follow two structures and patterns. These structures usually follow verbs such as *get, give, lend, offer, sell, send, show, teach* and *tell*.

Structure 1: direct object + *to/for* + indirect object

Examples:

His parents lend him ***money for his education.***
I don't think they will offer ***the job to her.***
You can send ***it to the shoppers.***

Structure 2: direct object + indirect object

Examples:

He should tell ***her the truth.***
I don't think they will offer ***her the job.***
You can send ***them information.***

Specific verbs can determine the order of the direct and indirect objects in a sentence. With the verbs *announce, describe, explain, mention, provide, recommend, return,* and *say,* the indirect object CANNOT come before the direct object. These verbs often follow structure 1.

Examples:

The company provides ***it to them*** free of charge.
His manager explained ***the new policy to the employees.***

However, with the verbs *allow, ask, cause,* and *cost,* the indirect object DOES come before the direct object. These indirect objects take no prepositions and often follow structure 2. In other words, if an indirect object is NOT introduced by a preposition, it precedes the direct object.

Examples:

Customers can always ask ***our employees for fashion advice.***
That new bag cost ***her five-hundred dollars.***

Grammar Reference: Subjunctive verbs

The subjunctive verb tense uses the base form of a verb in a 'that' clause, or a noun clause. It often follows specific verbs or phrases that express the importance of something.

Form: **that (sometimes optional) + noun + base verb (subjunctive)**

Some verbs that can be followed by the subjunctive include *demand*, *recommend*, and *suggest*. Some expressions that can be followed by the subjunctive include *it is critical*, *it is crucial*, *it is essential*, *it is imperative*, *it is important*, and *it is vital*.

Examples:
> Consumer groups demand that children's advertising *follow* certain rules.
> It is imperative that advertisements *be honest*.
> Parents insist that toys *be safe* for children to play with.
> It's important that we *not advertise* products that we do not sell.

The following verbs can be followed by a "*that clause*" with a subjunctive verb such as: *advise, beg, require, stipulate, ask, prefer, specify, vote*, etc.

Examples:
> He *advised that* his students *be* on time.
> Our store policy clearly *stipulates that* all sales associates *report* to work by 8:30 a.m.

The negative subjunctive is formed with "*not*" and the base form of the verb.

Example:
> The advertising executive's contract required that he *not receive* a bonus that year.

The passive form of the subjunctive is formed by "*be + past participle*".

Examples:

The sponsors asked that their product ***be featured*** prominently in the movie.

The manufacturers preferred that their shaving cream ***not be endorsed*** by misbehaving stars.