

SUBJECTS:

Every clause needs a subject.

English subjects always carry NOM.

[The easiest way to check the *subject* is to ask “**who** does (what)?” and to check the *object* “(who) does **what/whom**”]

Subjects may be a noun, a phrase, a whole clause.

VERBS:

There are two main type of verbs in sentences – *intransitive* and *transitive*:

Intransitive are all verbs which do not require an object;

Transitive are those verbs which require at least one object.

OBJECTS:

Most DO have ACC, a few exceptions have DAT, IO have mostly DAT.

Consider the sentence 'He walks'. It is grammatical although we only have a subject and a verb (predicate). This is because the verb “to walk” is intransitive and does not require an object.

In a sentence like '*She received' the verb is transitive and requires a DO, otherwise the sentence is not well-formed. Transitive verbs take one DO (and IO).

In a sentence like '*She smiles me' the verb is intransitive and takes no DO.

Examples for DO and IO:

He gave a letter to Mary.

He gave Mary a letter.

– The thing that is given is the DO in both cases. Mary is an IO.

He gave back Mary.

– Mary is the DO (why?)

Determine S/P/O in the following sentences:

She sent him an e-mail;

She sent him home;

The author of the book personally signed his newly released best seller.