

Word order in English sentences with two objects

If there are two objects in a sentence, the normal word order is:

person → thing

Example:

- I must give my sister a book.
 - I gave Mandy the letter.
 - I gave her the letter.
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If the thing is a pronoun, it is put **behind** the verb.

I must give **it** to her.

If we want to emphasize the person, we put the person **after** the thing. Then we use the preposition to.

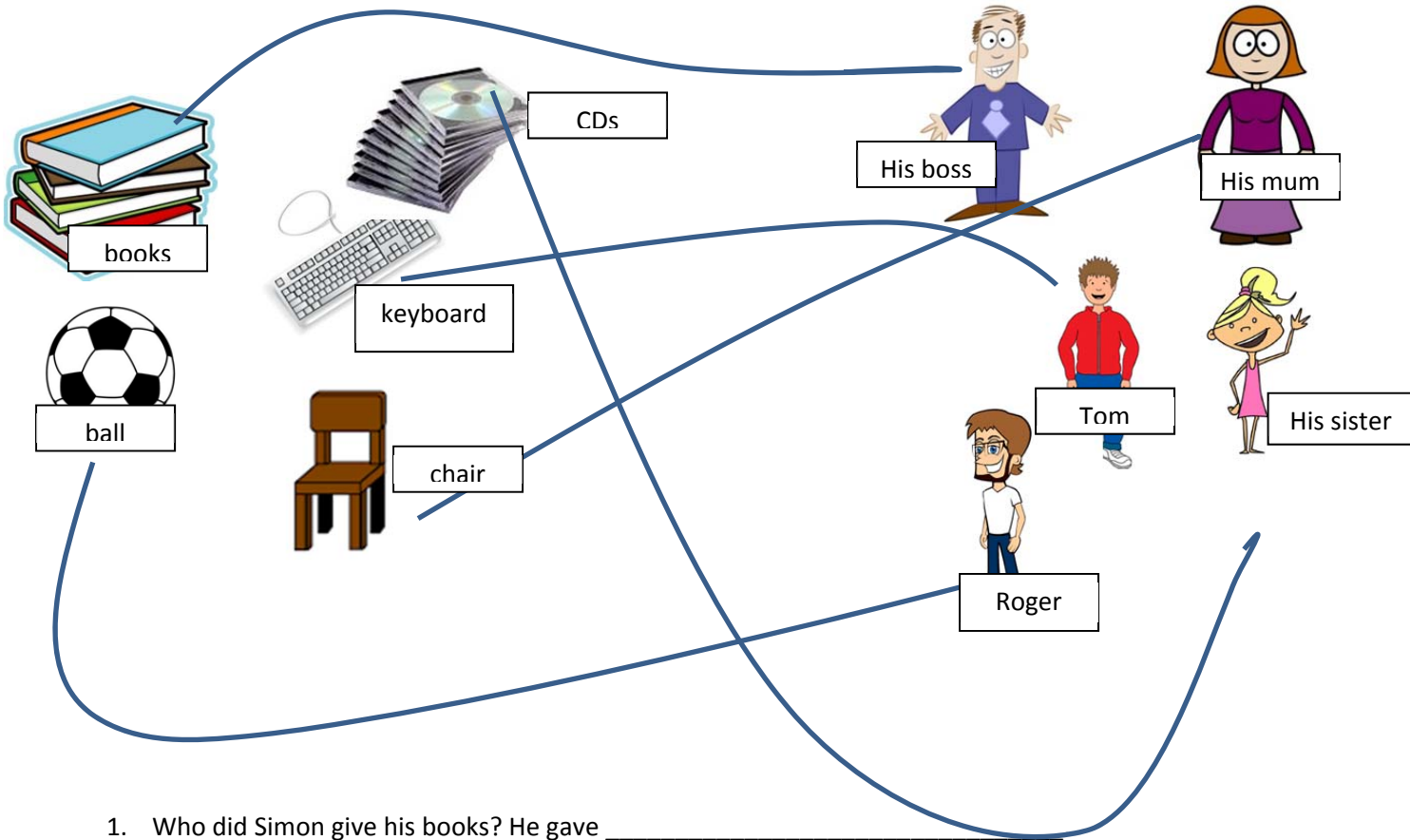
Let's write the letter to John in California.

Using the words *describe*, *explain*, *report* and *say* – we always put the person **after** the thing. Then we use the preposition to.

I will explain this rule to you.

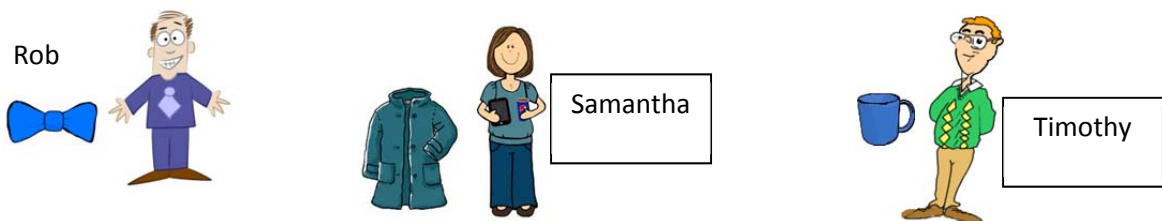
1. Simon had some things that he didn't like. He gave them to some people.

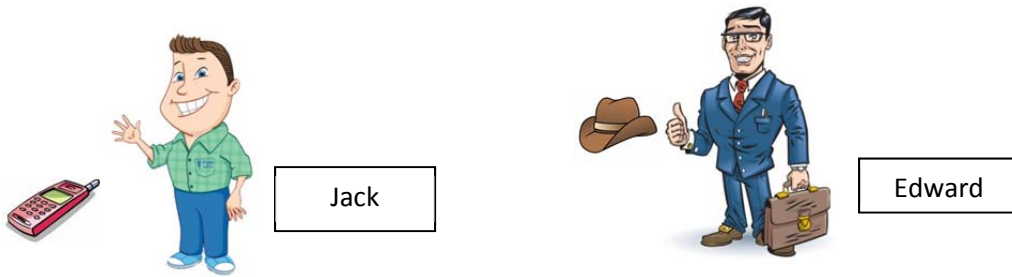
Write sentences beginning with *He gave...*



1. Who did Simon give his books? He gave _____.
2. Who did Simon give his chair? He gave _____.
3. Who did Simon give his ball? He gave _____.
4. Who did Simon give his keyboard? He gave _____.
5. Who did Simon give his CDs? He gave _____.

2. Your best friend Susan gave presents to some people you know. She decided to give these things in the pictures to these people. Write sentences. If there is more than one possible answer, write it down.





1. Susan gave _____.
2. Susan _____.
3. Susan _____.
4. Susan _____.
5. Susan _____.

3. Write questions with *Can you give me...?/Can you pass me...?*, etc.

1. (You want the paper) (pass) _____?
2. (you need an umbrella) (lend) _____?
3. (you need a telephone number) (give) _____?
4. (you want 50 euros) (lend) _____?
5. (you want some information) (send) _____?
6. (you need to see your exam) (show) _____?
7. (you want some coffee) (give) _____?
8. (you need an answer) (send) _____?

4. Which one is correct?

1. I gave Rachel the pillow/I gave to Rachel the pillow.
2. I'll send to you an e-mail/I'll send you an e-mail.
3. Did you lend the money him?/Did you lend the money to him?
4. I need to buy for him a present/ I need to buy him a present.
5. Can you pass to me the water, please?/Can you pass me the water, please?
6. These are your children's T-shirts. Can you give them to them?/Can you give them to him?
7. You showed to me your ID card/ You showed me your ID card.
8. She said goodbye to me/ She said me goodbye.
9. I told her a story/ I told to her a story.