

## Presentation Exercise: Grammar Preview 4 (Subjects/Direct Objects)

Multiple choice. What part of speech are subjects?

- A. Nouns
- B. Verbs
- C. Prepositions
- D. Adjectives

Fill in the Blank. Subjects do the action represented by the \_\_\_\_\_.

True or False. The subject can also be a noun which is said *not* to be doing the action of the verb if the verb is modified by a negator like “not, never, in no way.”

Fill in the Blank. “You and I are happy,” is an example of a \_\_\_\_\_ subject.

True or False. The tense of the main verb does not affect the subject.

True or False. Some full sentences do not have subjects.

Circle the main verb and underline the subject for each sentence below:

1. Love will conquer all.
2. Nobody doesn't like money.
3. But who doesn't want both?

Fill in the Blank. A direct object is any noun which \_\_\_\_\_ the action of a verb.

Circle the main verb, underline the subject, and double-underline the direct object in each sentence below:

1. You make lots of money.
2. Who can blame me for loving you?

True or False. Verb forms like “loving” or “to love” can take direct objects.

True or False. Unlike subjects, direct objects cannot be compounded.

True or False. All verbs have direct objects.

Fill in the Blank. Some verbs like \_\_\_\_\_ don't ever take a direct object.

Circle the main verb, underline the subject, and double-underline the direct object for each sentence below:

1. Love will conquer all.
2. But everybody needs money.
3. And who doesn't want both?
4. The ancient Romans conquered the Mediterranean world.
5. The tiny Roman state ruled the whole Italian peninsula.

Circle the main verbs, underline the subjects, and double-underline the direct objects for each paragraph below:

The Romans ousted their kings and established a government with executive officers and an assembly of elders. This state was not truly democratic, because the only people with a permanent seat in the Roman Senate had great wealth.

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Extended families of aristocratic extraction maintained absolute control over Rome throughout its early "Republican" history. This situation lasted for half a millennium until two such families, the Julians and the Claudians, established sole rule in the first century, giving rise to the Roman "Empire."

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Instead, the Romans spent their energy in violent war with other peoples and gained a reputation as tenacious fighters, developing an impressive system of warfare for a nation their size. Rome also had a powerful weapon in the legion, a battle formation quite complex for its age and requiring considerable time to learn.



Most battles in these early days of Rome took place in long, haphazard lines. The Thebans and later Alexander the Great had brought better order to military formation, but their contributions included mostly simple innovations, stacking a line of fighters at one end or creating a huge block of men.



The legion employed a flexible arrangement of men. The Romans organized soldiers into sub-groups and moved these cohorts as units around the battlefield. This design and the dedication to physical might provide an important element in their conquest of the Mediterranean world.



The early Romans achieved their greatest triumph with the defeat of Carthage, a rival trading empire in North Africa. Roman forces waged these so-called "Punic Wars" mostly at sea. Because of the nature of this conflict Rome had to develop a full navy for the first time in its history.



The decisive battles, however, occurred on land, as when the Carthaginian general Hannibal and his elephants invaded Italy and later when the Romans attacked the area around Carthage and won the day. In the second century (200-100 BCE) the Romans spread into Greece where their soldiers first encountered eastern ways of life.

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Greek philosophers, poets and playwrights flooded Rome and introduced lifestyles unfamiliar to the still rustic Italians. This incursion of new types of thought sparked a cultural crisis. Should the Romans uphold their traditional, time-tested, conservative "Roman" *mores*, or take up new, exotic, dangerous and delightful "Greek" habits?

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As time passed, the Romans came to see the Greeks as corrupters. To many Romans, these foreigners wanted to spoil their children with outlandish pleasures and use their oriental double-talk to undermine the Romans' simple virtues. Thus, the fabric of Roman society started to unravel and fall apart.

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Worse yet, these ideological struggles in the 100's BCE boiled over into military conflicts in the next century. For the first time in their history, Roman met Roman on the battlefield. This tragic civil war initiated the destruction of the Republic and the establishment of a more peaceful but at heart autocratic empire.