

# Language Tips

## Writing Tip Series: Practice Starting Writing on a Topic

1. Read the topic or come up with an idea

Example: It is important to follow the rules. Think about reasons why it is important to follow the rules. Now write to tell why it is important to follow the rules.

2. Underline important words in the topic.

a. It is important to follow the rules. Think about reasons why it is important to follow the rules. Now write to tell why it is important to follow the rules.

3. Brainstorm about the topic

a. write down all the ideas that you can think of

others know you are  
doing something right

be safe

won't get hurt

be responsible

get smarter

listen - won't miss out on  
important things

won't get in trouble

help others

learn more

stay on task

show respect

Definition:

**Indirect object** - noun or pronoun that comes before the direct object in a sentence and tells **to whom** or **for whom** the action of the verb is done and who is receiving the direct object.

Examples:

There must be a direct object to have an **indirect object**.

**Indirect objects** usually follow verbs like *give, bring, tell, show, take, and offer*.

Mary *gave* **John** a key to the house.

**Gave** is the verb, *key* is the direct object because it receives the action, and **John** is the **indirect object** because he is receiving the direct object.

Sam *sent* his **brother** a postcard from France.

**Sent** is the verb, *postcard* is the direct object because it receives the action, and **brother** is the **indirect object** because he is receiving the direct object.

The teacher *showed* the **students** a movie about whales.

**Showed** is the verb, **movie** is the direct object because it receives the action, and **students** is the **indirect object** because they are receiving the direct object.

Did you *offer* your **guests** some refreshments?

**Offer** is the verb, **refreshments** is the direct object because it receives the action, and **guests** is the **indirect object** because they are receiving the direct object.