

## Indirect Objects

**15i.** An *indirect object* is a noun, pronoun, or word group that often appears in sentences containing direct objects. An indirect object tells *to whom* or *to what* (or *for whom* or *for what*) the action of the verb is done.

**EXAMPLES** The librarian handed **me** the pile of books to reshelve.  
Has the senator given the **League of Women Voters** his answers?  
Furnish the **jurors** a copy of this map for use in their deliberations.

**EXERCISE A** In each of the following sentences, underline each indirect object.

**Example 1.** Amy Tan shows readers her world.

- In her books, Amy Tan provides her fans a glimpse into her own Chinese heritage.
- Tan gives her audience stories that are based on her family history.
- Many stories that she heard while growing up furnish the author material for her books.
- In her book *The Joy Luck Club*, Tan shows readers the relationship between Chinese American mothers and their daughters.
- Relationships among her own family members gave her the inspiration for the book.
- In the dedication of *The Joy Luck Club*, Tan gives her mother the assurance that she has not forgotten her Chinese heritage.
- The author also offers her editor, her agent, and her family thanks for their encouragement.
- Book reviewers afford Tan much critical acclaim for her first efforts as a novelist.
- Throughout her books, she presents the public a new and refreshing point of view.
- Her second novel, *The Kitchen God's Wife*, also has won Tan critical praise.

**EXERCISE B** In the following sentences, underline indirect objects once and direct objects twice.

**Example 1.** Who gave N. Scott Momaday another name?

- Tsoai-talee, a mountain sacred to the Kiowa, provides Momaday that name.
- Anglo-Americans have given this Wyoming mountain the name Devil's Tower.
- My teacher told us the story of Momaday's name and of its meaning, which is "Rock-Tree Boy."
- Before Momaday was a year old, one of his father's relatives gave him this name.
- The Pulitzer Prize Committee awarded the writer the 1969 fiction prize for his book *House Made of Dawn*.