

Unit 105

Word order (1) - verb + object; place and time

a *Verb + object*

The *verb* and the *object* of the verb normally go together. We do *not* usually put other words between them:

	<i>verb.</i>	<i>object.</i>	
I	like	children	very much. (<i>not</i> 'I like very much children.')
Did you	see	Norman	yesterday?
Ann often	plays	tennis.	

Here are some more examples. Notice how each time the verb and the object go together:

- Do you **clean the house** every week-end? (*not* 'Do you clean every week-end the house?')
- Everybody **enjoyed the party** very much. (*not* 'Everybody enjoyed very much the party.')
- Our guide **spoke English** fluently. (*not* '... spoke fluently English.')
- I **not only lost all my money** - I also **lost my passport**. (*not* 'I lost also my passport.')
- **At the end of the street** you'll **see a supermarket** on your left. (*not* '... see on your left a supermarket.')

For the position of words like **also** and **often** before the verb, see **Unit 106**.

b *Place and time*

We usually say the *place* (*where?*) before the *time* (*when?* / *how often?* / *how long?*):

	<i>place.</i>	<i>time.</i>	
Tom walks	to work	every morning.	(<i>not</i> 'Tom walks every morning to work.')
She has been	in Canada	since April.	
We arrived	at the airport	early.	

Here are some more examples:

- I'm going **to Paris** **on Monday**. (*not* 'I'm going on Monday to Paris.')
- Don't be late. Make sure you're **here** **by 8 o'clock**.
- Why weren't you **at home** **last night**?
- You really shouldn't go **to bed** **so late**.

It is often possible to put the time at the beginning of the sentence:

- **On Monday** I'm going to Paris.
- **Every morning** Tom walks to work.

Note that you *cannot* use **early** or **late** at the beginning of the sentence in this way.

There is more information about word order in **Unit 106**.

b *Place and time*

