Nominative and Accusative: Subject and Direct Object

1. In English the word order has importance.

   If we want to show that a word is the subject of a sentence, we nearly always put it before the verb, while the word that is the direct object of the sentence is placed after the verb. If we invert the order, we invert the meaning of the sentence.

   Example:

   An angel finds a man.   Compared with: **A man finds an angel.**

2. In Greek the word inflection is important.

   In the first sentence in the English example in Greek would be written as:

   $$\text{ἀγγελος εὑρισκει ἀνθρωπον.}$$

   The word **ἀγγελος** is indicated as the subject by putting it in the nominative case.

   The word **ἀνθρωπον** is indicated as the direct object by putting it in the accusative case.

   Therefore, **ἀνθρωπον εὑρισκει ἀγγελος** means exactly the same thing as the above sentence because the case determines which word is the subject and which word is the direct object.