

## 6 SIMPLE SENTENCE S+V<sub>t</sub>+O+C<sub>o</sub>

After studying through this chapter, you are expected to be able to write simple sentences with Pattern S+V<sub>t</sub>+O+C<sub>o</sub>

In Chapter 3 we learned that a verb might take a subject complement (C<sub>s</sub>) to make a predicate. In this case, the complement refers back to the subject. In this chapter, we are going to learn that a transitive verb might be followed by an object and an object complement (C<sub>o</sub>) to make a predicate. In this case, the complement refers back to the object. Let us scrutinize the following sentences.

No	Subject	Verb	Object	Complement
1	I	will make	you	happy.
2	We	should keep	this room	clean.
3	Jack	left	the door	open.
4	My uncle	painted	his house	green.
5	I	think	jogging	healthful.
6	My sister	considers	her cat	a true friend.
7	We	should make	them	understand
8	Jack	wanted	Molly	to sing.

In Sentence 1 the object is “you” and the object complement is “happy.” This sentence means “You are happy” and “I will achieve that.” Thus, we see that the complement “happy” refers to the object “you.” Similarly, in Sentence 2 the complement “clean” refers back to the object “this room.” Sentence 3 means “The door was open because Jack left it so,” while Sentence 4 means “My uncle’s house was green because he painted it so,” Sentence 5 means “In my opinion, jogging is healthful,” Sentence 6 means “In my sister’s opinion, her cat is a true friend,” Sentence 7 means “We should do something so that they understand,” and Sentence 8 means “Jack wanted something: Molly sang.”

It should be clear now that , while a subject complement refers to the subject of a sentence, an object complement in general refers back to the object of the verb. As has been partly revealed by the sentences above,

an adjective, a noun, a to-infinitive, a bare infinitive, a present participle, as well as a past participle can function as an object complement, and we are going to discuss each in turn.

## Adjective as Object Complement

The first type of object complements we will discuss is adjective. As has been explained previously, an object complement refers to the object of the verb rather than the subject of the sentence. In the following sentences all the object complements are in the form of an adjective or an adjective phrase.

No	Subject	Verb	Object	Complement
9	Jack	considers	books	important
10	The murder	drove	everyone	scared.
11	My mother	found	Mary	helpful.
12	Doctors	will keep	the baby	healthy.
13	You	left	a window	open.
14	Molly	makes	herself	pretty.
15	The jury	presumed	the man	guilty.
16	My father	thinks	movies	useless.

All the complements in the sentences above refer back to the objects of the verbs; thus, from Sentence 9 we understand that, more or less, “books are important,” Sentence 10 “everyone was scared,” from Sentence 11 “Mary was helpful,” Sentence 12 “the baby is healthy,” Sentence 13 “a window was open,” Sentence 14 “Molly is pretty,” Sentence 15 “the man was guilty,” and from Sentence 16 “movies are useless.”

Below is a list of verbs that can usually be followed by objects and adjective object complements; it should be kept in mind, nevertheless, that the list is not exhaustive, meaning that there are other verbs which can be followed by objects and adjective object complements which might not be included in the list.

Verb	Example
beat	People beat the man black and blue.
burn	They also burned his house black.
consider	We consider such actions quite anarchistic.
cut	Molly is going to cut her hair rather short.
drive	Mary’s letter drove Jack extremely shocked.

Verb	Example
dye	Mary says she is going to dye her hair bright yellow.
find	John found this dictionary very useful.
get	My father got everything ready for the journey.
hold	Jack holds his brother truly honest.
keep	This device will keep food always warm.
leave	My sister has never left her room untidy before.
like	My brother usually likes his coffee rather sweet.
make	A spoiled child will make his parents very unhappy.
paint	They have always painted their house bluish white.
presume	The doctors apparently presumed the boy dead.
prove	Molly has often proved herself indispensable.
render	The rain rendered our food uneatable.
see	He just wanted to see you happy.
set	The young master has set his favorite slave free.
think	Some students think the new teacher handsome.
turn	The cruel hunters gladly turned their dogs loose.
want	Jack wanted his parents happy.
wash	The children thoroughly washed their hands clean.
wipe	The poor girl suddenly got up and wiped her eyes dry.
wish	I wish you true to yourself.
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### Activity 6.1

Complete the following sentence by supplying an object, an adjective or an adjective phrase as an object complement, or both.

1. My father considers \_\_\_\_\_ unimportant.
2. Certainly, Jack will find his new servant \_\_\_\_\_.
3. My sister has got \_\_\_\_\_.
4. We have to keep \_\_\_\_\_ fresh.
5. Jack has always liked his coffee \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Do not leave \_\_\_\_\_.
7. My brother has made \_\_\_\_\_ useful.
8. First of all, the new secretary should prove herself \_\_\_\_\_.
9. I think \_\_\_\_\_.

### Activity 6.2

Combine the following sets of sentences into one sentence with the pattern S+V<sub>t</sub>+O+C<sub>o</sub> in which the complement is an adjective or an adjective phrase. The first one is done for you.

1. a. Honesty is important.  
b. Jack considers \*.  
⇒ Jack considers honesty important.

2. a. The new servant was diligent and helpful.  
b. My mother found \*.  
⇒ \_\_\_\_\_
3. a. The old man is healthy.  
b. Doctors will keep \*.  
⇒ \_\_\_\_\_
4. a. Watching TV is bad for children.  
b. My father thinks so.  
⇒ \_\_\_\_\_
5. a. The conference room was messy and dirty.  
b. The students left it so.  
⇒ \_\_\_\_\_
6. a. The children were unable to think clearly.  
b. The accident made them so.  
⇒ \_\_\_\_\_
7. a. The new engine is more powerful than the old one.  
b. The mechanics have to prove it so.  
⇒ \_\_\_\_\_
8. a. The rescue plan is inefficient.  
b. We thought so.  
⇒ \_\_\_\_\_
9. a. The girl was unfit for the job.  
b. We found \*.  
⇒ \_\_\_\_\_

### Activity 6.3

*Construct sentences with Pattern S+V<sub>t</sub>+O+C<sub>o</sub> (C<sub>o</sub>: adjective).*

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## Noun as Object Complement

The second type of object complements we will study is a noun or a noun phrase. Similar to adjective object complements, noun object complements in this pattern refer back to the object of the verb. Examine the following sentences carefully.

No	Subject	Verb	Object	Complement
17	The girls	appointed	Molly	their leader.
18	My sister	calls	her cat	Kitty.
19	Jack	considers	the collision	an accident.
20	We	have elected	John	our governor.
21	My mother	found	Mary	a helpful girl.
22	They	left	him	a sick man.
23	City life	made	Molly	a selfish girl.
24	My father	proved	himself	a true soldier.

Sentence 17 means “Molly was their leader because of the appointment,” Sentence 18 means “The name of my sister’s cat is Kitty,” Sentence 19 means “To Jack, the collision is an accident,” Sentence 20 means “Because of the election, John is our governor,” Sentence 21 means “To my mother,

Mary was a helpful girl,” Sentence 22 means “When they left him, he was a sick man,” Sentence 23 means “Because of city life, Molly has become a selfish girl,” and Sentence 24 means “There were proofs that my father was a true soldier.” Thus, we have seen from all these sentences that a noun object complement refers back to the object of the transitive verb.

Below are a number of transitive verbs that can usually take an object followed by a noun or noun phrase as object complement. Of course, there are other verbs not included in the list that can be followed by an object plus a noun object complement.

Verb	Example
appoint	My brother appointed Jack his lawyer.
call	The boy called him names.
consider	We consider this dictionary the most useful book.
declare	The priest declared the happy couple husband and wife.
elect	The students have elected Mary their representative.
find	My mother found the boy a very pleasant companion.
leave	Molly left Jack the happiest man on earth.
make	Molly will make Jack a trustworthy man.
name	My father named me Bob.
prove	I am going to prove myself a helpful person.
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#### Activity 6.4

*Complete the following sentence by supplying an object, a noun or a noun phrase as an object complement, or both.*

1. We have appointed Mary \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Everyone in the village calls \_\_\_\_\_ Mick.
3. My sister considers \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The students elected John \_\_\_\_\_.
5. You will find \_\_\_\_\_ an interesting activity.
6. The soldiers left \_\_\_\_\_.
7. My brother will make me \_\_\_\_\_.
8. We are going to name \_\_\_\_\_ West Wind.
9. The young man has proven \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Activity 6.5

*Combine the following sets of sentences into one sentence with the pattern S+V<sub>t</sub>+O+C<sub>o</sub> in which the complement is a noun or a noun phrase. The first one is done for you.*

1. a. Joko Tarub is the president of the country.  
b. They elected him to be so.  
⇒ They elected Joko Tarub the president of the country.

2. a. The newborn baby is David.  
b. My sister and her husband name it so.  
⇒ \_\_\_\_\_
3. a. His marriage life is a blissful blessing.  
b. My brother considers it so.  
⇒ \_\_\_\_\_
4. a. My new neighbor is a very nosy person.  
b. I find him so.  
⇒ \_\_\_\_\_
5. a. The old soldier became a healthy man again.  
b. The fresh mountain air has made him so.  
⇒ \_\_\_\_\_
6. a. A dagger is a very useful tool in a forest.  
b. We are going to prove it so.  
⇒ \_\_\_\_\_
7. a. The beach house was not a very comfortable place.  
b. You will find it so.  
⇒ \_\_\_\_\_
8. a. I am an utter fool.  
b. Don't leave me so. Tell me what you know about this issue.  
⇒ \_\_\_\_\_
9. a. You are a very cooperative person.  
b. You have proved yourself so.  
⇒ \_\_\_\_\_

### Activity 6.6

*Construct sentences with Pattern S+V<sub>t</sub>+O+C<sub>o</sub> (C<sub>o</sub>: noun).*

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## To-Infinitive as Object Complement

In addition to adjectives and nouns, we can also function a to-infinitive or a to-infinitive phrase as an object complement, that is, as a complement that refers back to the object of the verb in a sentence. To put it another way, a to-infinitive or a to-infinitive phrase which comes after the object of a transitive verb and which expresses an action carried out by the object might be considered as an object complement. Let us study the following sentences.

No	Subject	Verb	Object	Complement
25	The police	allow	Molly	to visit her boyfriend.
26	My father	asked	Jack	to take the boy home.
27	Molly	expected	Mary	to come on time.
28	My brother	likes	the maid	to prepare breakfast.
29	Jack	persuaded	the students	to leave the room.
30	The law	requires	riders	to wear helmets.
31	The incident	has taught	the boy	to respect others.
32	We	want	the girls	to finish the job.



We should understand that in Sentence 25 it is Molly who visits her boyfriend, in Sentence 26 it was Jack who took the boy home, in Sentence 27 it was Mary who came on time, in Sentence 28 it is the maid who prepares breakfast, in Sentence 29 it was the students who left the room, in Sentence 30 it is the riders who wear helmets, in Sentence 31 it is the boy who respects others, and in Sentence 32 it is the girls who finish the job. In short, we understand that the to-infinitive object complement expresses an action which is carried out by the object of the verb of the sentence, instead of by the subject of the sentence.

The list below includes a number of transitive verbs which can be followed by an object plus a to-infinitive object complement. Obviously, we should remember that there are still many other verbs not included in the list.

Verb	Example
advise	My father advised his children to take a rest.
allow	Jack did not allow anyone to enter his bedroom.
assist	We are going to assist the children to study their lessons.
ask	My mother has asked my sister to pick her up.
beg	John begged Mary to tell him the truth.
cause	The explosion caused everyone to run away.
command	The general has commanded his troops to withdraw.
direct	Molly is directing the children to clean up the mess.
enable	This device will enable us to lift heavy things easily.
encourage	My sister encouraged me to save my money.
expect	Mary has expected us to come to her party.
forbid	The headmaster forbids students to enter the forest.
force	What forced him to kill himself?
get	I will get the boys to prepare the meeting room.
help	My brother helps new students to plan their study.
induce	The shop attendant induced Molly to spend more.
instruct	The commander instructed them to stay alert.
invite	Mary's sister invited us to visit her in the country.
like	My girlfriend likes people to listen to her.
mean	I did not mean you to speak so openly.
oblige	The law obliges people not to smoke in public places.
order	The manager has ordered his employees to keep working.
permit	My teacher did not permit them to leave the classroom.
persuade	Jack's brother persuaded the angry man to sit down.
prefer	We have always preferred Mary to organize our meetings.
provoke	The young men provoked their friends to burn the building.
require	The school requires students to register every semester.
teach	My boyfriend is teaching me to drive a car.
tell	Have you told those men to keep quiet?
tempt	Hunger tempted the man to steal some food.
urge	The doctor urged the old man to do some exercise.
want	My uncle does not want me to help him.

Verb	Example
warn	We have often warned Jack not to neglect his responsibilities.
wish	I did not wish you to listen to John.
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### Activity 6.7

Complete the following sentence by supplying an object, a to-infinitive or a to-infinitive phrase as an object complement, or both.

1. My father does not allow me \_\_\_\_\_.
2. We have asked \_\_\_\_\_ to come tonight.
3. My sister encourages \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Jack did not expect Mary \_\_\_\_\_.
5. My brother often helps \_\_\_\_\_ to write a paper.
6. Nothing can persuade \_\_\_\_\_.
7. My girlfriend will teach me \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Molly told \_\_\_\_\_ to open the door.
9. John warned \_\_\_\_\_.

### Activity 6.8

Combine the following sets of sentences into one sentence with the pattern S+V<sub>t</sub>+O+C<sub>o</sub> in which the complement is a to-infinitive or a to-infinitive phrase. The first one is done for you.

1. a. The kids reached an agreement among themselves first.  
b. We advised \*.  
⇒ We advised the kids to reach agreement among themselves first.
2. a. I stay up late.  
b. My parents don't allow \*.  
⇒ \_\_\_\_\_
3. a. The boys were standing still for a while.  
b. Molly asked.  
⇒ \_\_\_\_\_
4. a. Their parents take them to the zoo.  
b. They have been begging for weeks.  
⇒ \_\_\_\_\_
5. a. Old people read with ease.  
b. These glasses enable \*.  
⇒ \_\_\_\_\_

6. a. Students study their lessons on their own.  
b. Teachers need to encourage this.

⇒ \_\_\_\_\_

7. a. The factory workers went on a strike three weeks on a row.  
b. Something must have provoked them to do so.

⇒ \_\_\_\_\_

8. a. The girl dances so beautifully and gracefully.  
b. Who taught her?

⇒ \_\_\_\_\_

9. a. You will not disobey your parents.  
b. I warn you.

⇒ \_\_\_\_\_

#### Activity 6.9

*Construct sentences with Pattern S+V<sub>t</sub>+O+C<sub>o</sub> (C<sub>o</sub>: to-infinitive).*

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