

6

SIMPLE SENTENCE

S+V_t+O+C_o

⇒ After studying through this chapter, you are expected to be able to write simple sentences with Pattern S+V_t+O+C_o

Bare Infinitive as Object Complement

A bare infinitive is an infinitive without “to.” Similar to a to-infinitive, a bare infinitive or a bare infinitive phrase might come after the object of a transitive verb and communicate an action carried out by the object. Thus, it can be said to function as an object complement. Study these sentences carefully.

No	Subject	Verb	Object	Complement
33	I	felt	someone	walk outside.
34	We	heard	John	open the front door.
35	The man	observed	the children	play in the yard.
36	My sister	saw	someone	enter the house.
37	We	will have	the men	build a bridge.
38	My brother	helped	me	repair my bike.
39	The woman	let	her children	swim in the river.
40	Nobody	can make	Jack	leave the burning ship.

Sentence 33 implies the meaning that “someone walked outside,” Sentence 34 implies the meaning that “John opened the front door,” Sentence 35 implies the meaning that “the children played in the yard,” Sentence 36 implies the meaning that “someone entered the house,” Sentence 37 implies the meaning that “the men will build a bridge,” Sentence 38 implies the meaning that “I repaired my bike,” Sentence 39 implies the meaning that “her children swam in the river,” and Sentence 40 implies the meaning that “Jack will not leave the burning ship.” All these show that a bare infinitive or a bare infinitive phrase might function as an object complement expressing an action carried out by an object of a transitive verb.

Below is a list of transitive verbs that can be followed by a bare infinitive as an object complement. There are not many of such verbs, and

there are two types of the verbs. Type I includes verbs of perception; while Type II includes other verbs. Although there might be one or two similar verbs not included in the list, for the time being, you can regard the list as exhaustive.

Verb	Example
Type I	
feel	We felt the house shake momentarily.
hear	Jack did not hear us open the garage door.
listen (to)	I am going to listen to John speak in public.
look (at)	Look at those men dance in trance.
notice	Molly noticed Mary wear a new pair of sandals.
observe	The students will observe a spider make a web.
see	Didn't you see an old woman walk across the road?
watch	Jack was watching some boys play football in the field.
Type II	
bid	Can I bid you come in?
have	We are going to have the children take off their shoes.
help	My mother helped my sister dress.
know	I have never known my father smoke a cigar.
let	You won't let anyone see my pictures, will you?
make	Molly is going to make everyone at the party sing along.

Activity 6.10

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

1. We did not hear you _____.
2. Didn't you listen to _____ shout at each other?
3. We are going to observe _____.
4. Jack saw a man _____ last night.
5. John had his brother _____.
6. I am going to help _____.
7. We have never known Mary _____.
8. The man made _____ look into the mirror.
9. Molly did not let _____.

Activity 6.11

Combine the following sets of sentences into one sentence with the pattern S+V_t+O+C_o in which the complement is a bare infinitive or a bare infinitive phrase. The first one is done for you.

1. a. Someone walked on the roof.
b. I could feel it.
⇒ I could feel someone walk on the roof.

2. a. The children climbed up the banyan tree.
b. Didn't you hear?
⇒ _____
3. a. A crazy woman burned her own daughter.
b. I saw it.
⇒ _____
4. a. A big dog ran after a wild cat around and around.
b. The man sat on the bench in the park and watched.
⇒ _____
5. a. Every student studies the lessons regularly.
b. The teacher will have him or her do so.
⇒ _____
6. a. The old man crosses the busy street.
b. I think we need to help.
⇒ _____
7. a. I solve my own problems.
b. They won't let *.
⇒ _____
8. a. Jack postponed his visit to the hospital.
b. Something made him do so.
⇒ _____
9. a. My younger brother tidied up his messy bedroom.
b. My mother had *.
⇒ _____

Activity 6.12

Construct sentences with Pattern S+V_t+O+C_o (C_o: bare infinitive).

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Present Participle as Object Complement

Present participle is the “-ing” form of a verb. Similar to a to-infinitive and a bare infinitive, a present participle can also function as an object complement, meaning that it comes after the object of a transitive verb and expresses an action carried out by the object, rather than by the subject of the sentence. Let us examine the following sentences.

No	Subject	Verb	Object	Complement
41	I	can feel	someone	watching us.
42	They	looked at	the child	washing her cat.

No	Subject	Verb	Object	Complement
43	Mary	saw	a bird	flying over her house.
44	We	watched	some children	running in the yard.
45	Molly	caught	her brother	playing in the rain.
46	Jack	found	the boys	lying on the floor.
47	You	kept	the guests	waiting too long.
48	John	left	his sister	doing her homework.

Sentence 41 means “I have a feeling that someone is watching us,” Sentence 42 means “when they looked at the child, she was washing her cat,” Sentence 43 means “A bird was flying over her house, and Mary saw it,” Sentence 44 means “some children were running in the yard and we watched them,” Sentence 45 means “Molly discovered that her brother was playing in the rain,” Sentence 46 means “when Jack found the boys, they were lying on the floor,” Sentence 47 means “the guests were waiting too long,” and Sentence 48 means “when John left his sister, she was doing her homework.” Thus, we see that the object complement in the form of a present participle phrase in each of the sentences above refers back to the object and expresses an action carried out by the object.

Below is a list of transitive verbs that can be followed by object plus present participle as object complement. Again, there are two types of these verbs; Type I includes verbs of perception and Type II includes other verbs. There are only a handful of verbs of both types, and, although one or two verbs might be added to the list, it could to some extent be regarded as exhaustive.

Verb	Example
Type I	
feel	My mother felt someone moving behind her.
glimpse	They glimpsed some people working in the room.
hear	Molly heard her sister coming out of the bathroom.
listen (to)	We listened to the girls rehearsing the play.
look (at)	Jack looked at the old man getting up and walking away.
notice	I didn't notice Mary wearing a diamond necklace.
observe	My brother observed his friends preparing the field.
perceive	I could not perceive the man leading an important team.
see	The children saw a man approaching their dog.
smell	Molly smelled her food burning.
watch	My father watched the mechanic fixing his car.
Type II	
bring	A long distance call brought him hurrying to Jakarta.
catch	They caught some workers smoking in the office.
find	Mary found someone waiting for her in the office.
get	The teacher got the students practicing their English.
have	We cannot have the children behaving that way.

Verb	Example
imagine	We could not imagine John climbing the mountain.
keep	Jack should not keep those men standing outside.
leave	Molly left her sister watching TV in the living room.
send	The great flood sent cars tumbling over each other.
set	The joke set everyone of us laughing to tears.
show	The picture shows a man sitting beside a tall door.
start	Your question has started them reconsidering their plan.
take	My sister took the children swimming that Sunday.

Activity 6.13

Complete the following sentence by supplying a present participle as an object complement, or both an object and a present participle as an object complement.

1. My sister felt her cat _____.
2. We could hear the boys _____.
3. John saw _____.
4. My brother watched his friends _____.
5. Jack caught some of the workers _____.
6. My father found _____.
7. Mary could not imagine herself _____.
8. We should not keep the girls _____.
9. My mother left _____.

Activity 6.14

Combine the following sets of sentences into one sentence with the pattern S+V_t+O+C_o in which the complement is a present participle or a present participle phrase. The first one is done for you.

1. a. Something or someone was moving behind the bushes.
b. We felt.
⇒ We felt something or someone moving behind the bushes.
2. a. The children were playing in the rain.
b. I heard.
⇒ _____
3. a. City officials distributed foods and blankets among the refugees.
b. We came to observe.
⇒ _____
4. a. The man was painting the roof of his house.
b. My brother saw.
⇒ _____

5. a. Some people were breaking into the burning shop.

b. The policeman caught them.

⇒ _____

6. a. The postman man was lying dead on the floor.

b. When they arrived home, they found.

⇒ _____

7. a. You wait too long.

b. I don't want to keep *.

⇒ _____

8. a. The students were discussing their semester project.

b. The teacher left.

⇒ _____

9. a. People come and go.

b. The boy watches.

⇒ _____

Activity 6.15

Construct sentences with Pattern S+V_t+O+C_o (C_o: present participle).

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Past Participle as Object Complement

The last type of object complements we will study in this chapter is past participle. A past participle is also known as “the 3rd form” of a verb. In addition to a to-infinitive, a bare infinitive, and a present participle, a past participle is a verbal that can function as a complement to the object of a transitive verb. Analyze the following sentences carefully.

No	Subject	Verb	Object	Complement
49	Mary	heard	the boxes	brought upstairs.
50	John	saw	the cat	thrown out of the window.
51	We	watched	the food	packed into boxes.
52	They	found	their bikes	hung upside down.
53	Molly	got	her father	taken to hospital.
54	I	had	this room	cleaned.
55	Jack	makes	his essays	read by his friends.
56	You	want	yourself	respected.

Sentence 49 entails the meaning that “the boxes were brought upstairs,” Sentence 50 entails the meaning that “the cat was thrown out of the window,” Sentence 51 entails the meaning that “the food was packed into boxes,” Sentence 52 entails the meaning that “their bikes were hung upside down,” Sentence 53 entails the meaning that “Molly’s father was taken to hospital,” Sentence 54 entails the meaning that “this room was cleaned,” Sentence 55 entails the meaning that “his essays are read by his friends,”

and Sentence 56 entails the meaning that “you are respected.” Thus, we can infer that the past participle phrase in each of the sentences above functions as an object complement, in that it refers back to the object of the verb in the sentence.

Below is a list of transitive verbs that can usually be followed by an object plus a past participle as object complement. There might be one or two verbs of this kind not included in the list; however, for the time being, we can consider the list to be exhaustive.

Verb	Example
Type I	
hear	My father heard the door opened.
listen (to)	Mary has once listened to the song sung in Javanese.
look (at)	Some people looked at the boys lifted from the murky water.
notice	Everyone noticed the trees trimmed meticulously.
observe	Molly observed the fence repainted.
see	We saw the machine assembled.
watch	My brother watched the building torn down.
Type II	
find	My sister found her room redecorated.
get	Jack will get the car repaired.
have	The police will have the streets closed.
keep	The committee will keep us informed.
leave	The boys left nothing in the room untouched.
let	The local people won't let the body of their chief buried.
make	John apparently can't make himself understood.
want	I want all these houses modernized.

Activity 6.16

Complete the following sentence by supplying a past participle as an object complement, or both an object and a past participle as an object complement.

1. My brother heard the man _____.
2. We were looking at _____.
3. Mary saw _____.
4. We will watch the car _____.
5. My father found _____.
6. Molly will get _____.
7. John had _____.
8. Jack makes _____.
9. I want _____.

Activity 6.17

Combine the following sets of sentences into one sentence with the pattern S+V_t+O+C_o in which the complement is a past participle or a past participle phrase. The first one is done for you.

1. a. Some small children were taken into the black van.
b. We looked at *.
⇒ We looked at some small children taken into the black van.
2. a. The school boys were scolded by their teacher for their unruly behavior.
b. Molly heard.
⇒ _____
3. a. The grand piano was taken out of the house and loaded onto a big truck.
b. Some people saw.
⇒ _____
4. a. The machines will be disassembled tonight.
b. I am going to watch.
⇒ _____
5. a. The documents will be sorted tonight.
b. My father will have *.
⇒ _____

6. a. His study room has been transformed to a small theater.

b. My brother will be surprised to find *.

⇒ _____

7. a. His people are united under one great purpose.

b. The leader has successfully made *.

⇒ _____

8. a. Three more hospitals will be built in this province by 2012.

b. The governor wants it.

⇒ _____

9. a. My younger sister is bought some new clothes.

b. My mother has *.

⇒ _____

Activity 6.18

Construct sentences with Pattern S+V_t+O+C_o (C_o: past participle).

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