



Complementation of verbs and adjectives

Multi-word verbs

- **phrasal verbs** (transitive or intransitive)
- **prepositional verbs** (always transitive)
- **phrasal-prepositional verbs** (always transitive)

Phrasal verbs

- **A/ intransitive phrasal verbs**

(verb + adverb particle, e.g. *put off*, *break down*, *take off*)

The plane is taking off in a minute.

- **B/ transitive phrasal verbs**

(verb + adverb particle + object, e.g. *turn on*, *take off*)

You must take off your coat.

Note: In contrast to free combinations, the meaning of phrasal verbs (idiomatic combinations) cannot be predicted from the individual parts.

Prepositional verbs

- type I prepositional verbs (**monotransitive**)
(e.g. *wait for, cope with, depend on*)
Can you cope with the work?
- type II prepositional verbs (**ditransitive**)
(e.g. *remind sb of st, congratulate sb on st*)
May I remind you of our agreement?
- **two minor groups** in which the direct object is part of the idiomatic combination
 - a/ *to take care of, pay attention to* - 2 passives
 - b/ *to catch sight of, keep pace with* - 1 passives

Some differences between prepositional verbs, phrasal verbs and free combinations

- **prepositional verbs**
- *We called on the dean.*
- *The dean was called on.*
- *John called on her.*
- *Who(m) did John call on?*

vs.

free combinations:

We called after lunch.

no passive

John called from the office.

Where did John call from?

- **prepositional verbs**
- *She called on her friends.*
- *She called on them.*
- *She called **angrily** on her friends.*
- *the friends **on whom** she called*
- *Which friends did she **CALL** on?*

vs.

phrasal verbs:

She called up her friends.

She called her friends up.

She called them up.

no insertion

particle cannot precede pr/wh-

*Which friends did she call **UP**?*

Phrasal-prepositional verbs

- type I verbs - have **only one prepositional object**
(e.g. *to get away with*)

He believes he can get away with everything.

- type II verbs - ditransitive verbs **with two objects**
(e.g. *to put success down to st*)

Our success can be put down to hard work.

- Note: There are some other multi-word combinations:
 - a/ verb-adjective combinations: *to cut short, rub dry*
 - b/ verb-verb combinations: *get rid of, have done with*
 - c/ verbs with two prepositions: *to develop from N into N, to talk to N about N*

Verb complementation

- intransitive verbs
- copular-linking verbs (current or resulting copula) some of them have adverbial complementation (space and time adjuncts)
- transitive verbs
- complex-transitive verbs
- **Examples of current copulas:** *appear, be, feel, look, smell* (ADJ), *sound, taste* (ADJ), and **examples of resulting copulas:** *become, get* (ADJ), *grow* (ADJ), *prove, turn*

Notes on monotransitive verbs

- NP as direct or prepositional object (*to bring, to find, to get, to lose*)
- Note: **middle verbs** (e.g. *to have, fit, suit, hold, lack, resemble*) do not have passive forms
- Finite clause as O expressed by *that*-clause. There are four categories of verbs followed by *that*-clause:
 - A/ **factual**: public (e.g. *say*), private (e.g. *feel*)
 - B/ **suasive** (*intend, demand, request, order*)
 - C/ **emotive** (*annoy, wonder*)
 - D/ **hypothesis** (*wish, suppose, would rather*)

Notes on ditransitive verbs

- **indirect and direct O** (*He gave her a doll.*)
- **O and prepositional object**
(*I congratulated her on the exam.*)
- **indirect O and *that*-clause O**
(*She convinced him that she was well.*)
- **prepositional O and *that*-clause O**
(*She recommended (to me) that I buy a car.*)
- **indirect O and *wh*-clause O**
(*She asked me what to do.*)
- **indirect O and *to*-infinitive clause O**
(*I persuaded him to go.*)

Notes on complex-transitive verbs

- **SVOC** pattern in which object C is NP or AdjP
(*to appoint, elect, declare, consider*)
- **SVOA** pattern in which A is usually a PP of direction
(*to take st out of, to talk sb into st*)
- **Other examples** of complex-transitive complementation:
direct O and *to*-infinitive clause;
direct O and bare infinitive clause;
direct O and *-ing* participle clause;
direct O and *-ed* clause.

Examples of other types of complex-tr. verbs

1. direct object and *to*-infinitive clause

e.g. *The police reported the traffic to be heavy.*

(*to believe, consider, expect, feel, find, know, suppose*)

2. direct object and bare infinitive clause

e.g. *I saw Mary open the window.*

The passive normally requires a *to*-infinitive, e.g. *Mary was seen to open the window.* (causative verbs: *have, let, make*; perceptual verbs of seeing and hearing: *feel, hear, notice, observe, overhear, see, watch*)

3. direct object and *-ing* participle clause

e.g. *I saw him lying on the beach.*

The passive: *He was seen lying on the beach.* (e.g. perceptual verbs: *feel, hear, notice*; verbs of encounter: *catch, discover, find*; causative verbs: *get* and *have*)

4. direct object and *-ed* clause

e.g. *She had the car cleaned.*

Three groups of verbs:

a/ perceptual verbs (*to see, hear, feel*);

b/ volitional verbs (*to like, need, want*);

c/ causative verbs (*to get, have*)

Adjective complementation

- by a **finite clause**
(*He was certain that Peter was still alive.*)
- by a **to-infinitive clause**
(*Jane is slow to speak.*)
- by an **-ing participle clause**
(*We are used to having guests at the weekend.*)