

4 Direct and indirect objects

4.0 Basics

- Subject: external
- Object: internal
- PC: internal

- direct object (DO):
with monotransitive and multitransitive predicates
- indirect object (IO):
only with multitransitive predicates

4 Direct and indirect objects

4.0 Basics

- DO: canonically expresses the ***patient*** role with agent-patient verbs (If it expresses other roles than the patient one, it has the same grammatical properties as the NP expressing the patient)
- IO: canonically expresses the ***recipient*** (also other semantic roles possible)
- The direct object-argument is more directly affected or involved in the relation denoted by the predicate than the indirect one.
(1) Pat gave Kim the key
 S |P | IO | DO
- The DO in ditransitives is obligatory while the IO is omissible – cf. clauses with *lend, offer, ...*

4 Direct and indirect objects

4.1 The object in canonical monotransitive clauses

- ***category of objects in monotransitive clauses***

normally NP

function of NP: S, O, PC (core complements)

?subordinate content clauses

they are complements but no objects

4 Direct and indirect objects

4.1 The object in canonical monotransitive clauses

- *selective obligatoriness*

Obligatory Os:

- (4) a. He accosted her.
- b. We kept the old battery.
- c. This entailed a considerably delay.

4 Direct and indirect objects

4.1 The object in canonical monotransitive clauses

- *correspondence to passive subject*

- (5) a. His uncle owned two yachts.
a'. Two yachts were owned by his uncle.
b. His uncle had two yachts.
b'. *Two yachts were had by his uncle.
c. He has drunk out of this glass
c'. This glass has been drunk out of.

passive test:

if the element corresponds to a passive subject, it is an object

4 Direct and indirect objects

4.1 The object in canonical monotransitive clauses

- ***position***

normally after P

- (6) a. She saw John often
b. She often saw John
c. *She saw often John

But:

- (7) a. He brought the clothes in
a'. He brought it in
in is a particle – cf. §6.2
particles strand in the final position
b. He brought in the clothes
extraposition of the heavy DP
b'. *He brought in it

4 Direct and indirect objects

4.1 The object in canonical monotransitive clauses

- (8) a. I returned the books to Jo
b. I returned to Jo all the books I borrowed
extraposition of the heavy DP *all the books I borrowed*
b'. *I returned to Jo the books
- (9) a. She rejected the others
b. The others she rejected
object preposing
b'. *It she rejected.

4 Direct and indirect objects

4.2 Object and extraposed object

(10) To postpone the meeting | was necessary

S

P

It | was necessary | to postpone the meeting

S

P

A

subject extraposition

4 Direct and indirect objects

4.3 Ditransitive clauses (double object constructions)

alternation with prepositional construction

(14) ditransitive: S – P – DO – IO

a. I sent Sue a copy

a'. I sent a copy to Sue

monotransitive: S – P – DO – A

b. I ordered Sue a copy

b'. I ordered a copy for Sue

4 Direct and indirect objects

4.3 Ditransitive clauses (double object constructions)

order of DO and IO

S – P – IO – DO

***DO – IO**

– cf. **S – O** ***O – S**

(15) They offered all the students one of the tutors

They offered one of the tutors all the students

(16) He gave Sue the key

He gave the key Sue

4 Direct and indirect objects

4.3 Ditransitive clauses (double object constructions)

- object preposing

DO – S – P – IO – ~~DO~~ *IO – S – P – ~~IO~~ – DO

(17)

a. The key he gave Sue ~~the key~~

a' ??Sue he gave ~~Sue~~ the key

b. The key which he lent me ~~which~~ | didn't fit

b'. ??The one | which I lent ~~which~~ the key | didn't return it

c. He asked | what I bought ~~her~~ what

c'. He asked | whom I bought ~~whom~~ presents

4 Direct and indirect objects

4.3 Ditransitive clauses (double object constructions)

ditransitives and related passives

(18) First passive (IO-passive) strongly preferred

- a. Sue was sent a copy
- b. ?Sue was ordered a copy

(19) Second passive (DO-passive)

- a. ?A copy was sent Sue
- a'. A copy was sent to Sue
- b. *A copy was ordered Sue
- b'. ??A copy was ordered for Sue

- ?Because of the data in (18), is the IO rather a DO in ditransitives?

4 Direct and indirect objects

4.3 Ditransitive clauses (double object constructions)

a. *Passives*

cf. (18b)

b. *Post-verbal position*

IO is in post-verbal position and resistant to movement from this position

c. *Object postponing (extraposition)*

Only heavy DOs can be postponed

(20)

a. He gave to charity everything he earned from the concert.

b. He gave Sue immediately all the spar keys he had had cut.

c. *He gave a second chance all those who had scored 40% or more.

! Order is the primary factor distinguishing IO from DO as well as S from O.

4 Direct and indirect objects

4.3 Ditransitive clauses (double object constructions)

d. *Prenuclear position* (object preposing)

Preposed IOs are of low acceptability – cf. (17).

e. *Predicand*

Unlike monotransitive DO and ditransitive DO, IO cannot be a predicand for a predicative adjunct

(21) She ate the steak almost raw.

He served the steak almost raw.

*He offered her the steak fiendishly hungry.

4 Direct and indirect objects

4.3 Ditransitive clauses (double object constructions)

f. *Control in infinitival purpose clauses*

DOs can be controller of "hollows", but not IOs

- (22) He wanted it to spend _ on his children
She gave him it to spend _ it on his children
*She sent him it to prove _ wrong

Conclusion:

Ditransitive DO has a greater syntactic affinity with monotransitive DO than does ditransitive IOs.

5 Predicatives and related elements

5.0 Basics

➤ *complex intransitive and transitive constructions*

(1) Kim | seemed | uneasy

S [predicand] P PC

complex intransitive

(2) He | found | Kim | intolerant

S P DO[predicand] PC

complex transitive

3 Predicatives and related elements

3.0 Basics

➤ *depictives, resultatives*

- (3) a. Kim seemed uneasy
b. He found Kim intolerant

- (4) a. Kim became angry
b. He made Kim happy

3 Predicatives and related elements

3.0 Basics

(3) a. *Kim seemed uneasy*

S P PC

intransitive

depictive

A **depictive PC** gives a property of the predicand argument at the time of the situation under consideration

b. *He found Kim intolerant*

S P DO PC

transitive

depictive

3 Predicatives and related elements

3.0 Basics

(4) a. Kim became angry

S P PC

intransitive

resultative

A **resultative PC** typically occurs with verbs that denote a change of state. The PC denotes the state of the predicand argument at the end of the process.

b. He made Kim happy

S P DO PC

transitive

resultative

3 Predicatives and related elements

3.0 Basics

➤ *category of PC*

(5) a. Kim | became | angry

AdjP

b. Kim | remained | a keen teacher

NP (used non-referentially)

c. The publicity | made | Kim | a liability

NP

3 Predicatives and related elements

3.0 Basics

➤ *PCs and predicators*

(6) **Kim** | remained

He | is

He | made | **Kim**

S P DO

| a keen teacher

| fond of animals

| happy

PC

applies to the subject

carries temporal, modal,
agreement features

applies to the **predicand**

no agreement features
needs a verbal head and is
hence a complement

3 Predicatives and related elements

3.0 Basics

	<i>Kim</i>		 <i>became</i>		 <i>angry</i>		
syn:	S		P		PC		
sem:	arg (=predicand)				predicate		
	angry (x) → angry (kim)						
	become (p) → become [angry (kim)]						
	<i>Kim</i>		 <i>considered</i>		 <i>J's departure</i>		 <i>wrong</i>
syn:	S		P		DO		PC
sem:	arg		predicate		arg		predicate
	wrong (p) → wrong (j's_departure)						
	consider (P), (y), (x) → cons (wrong (j's_departure)), (kim)						

3 Predicatives and related elements

3.0 Basics

➤ *verbal heads of PC*

- proper semantic predicates: *seem, find, consider, appoint, ...*
- empty semantic predicates: *be, remain, become, ...*

3 Predicatives and related elements

3.0 Basics

➤ *extraposed predicands*

(7) It |is |unfortunate |that it rained

S P

PC

S'

pred

arg

unfortunate (p) → unfortunate (that it rained)

(8) Kim |finds |it |easier |to go by bus

S

P

DO

PC

DO'

arg pred

pred

arg

easy (p) → easy (go_by_bus)

find (P), (y), (x) → find (easy (go_by_bus)), (kim)

3 Predicatives and related elements

3.1 Syntactic properties of PCs

➤ **Category**

AdjP, bare role NP
unlike Os

➤ **Passive**

cannot be S in passives
unlike Os

- (9) They appointed John president
John was appointed president
*President was appointed John

3 Predicatives and related elements

3.1 Distinctive syntactic properties of PCs

➤ **Case**

nominative case possible (in formal style)

unlike w.r.t. Os

(10) It | is | **he** who wrote it

S P PC

➤ **Number agreement**

(11) She seems a reliable witness

They seem reliable witnesses

They considered him a fool

They considered them fools

3 Predicatives and related elements

3.1 Distinctive syntactic properties of PCs

➤ *Predicative obliques*

PCs may occur as complements of prepositions

- (12) I regard her as indispensable
She served as treasurer

3 Predicatives and related elements

3.2 Location, goal, and source

➤ *locative and PCs*

(13) PC

Sue remained calm

I kept it handy

(14) Locative

Sue remained outside

I kept it in the drawer

3 Predicatives and related elements

3.2 Location, goal, and source

– *Is the locative PC distinction necessary?*

preds with
PCs and locatives
get, go, stay, drive, get,
leave

preds with only PCs
become, seem, sound, call,
make, render

- (15) He got angry
He got into the car
- (16) He became angry

3 Predicatives and related elements

3.3 Obligatory and optional PCs

➤ ***obligatory and optional PC***

(17) *become*

Kim became ill

obligatory

look, get, ...

They departed content

optional

die, freeze, ...

(18) *He made Kim angry*

keep, get, ...

He washed it clean

paint, eat

3 Predicatives and related elements

3.3 Obligatory and optional PCs

➤ *ambiguities*

(19) They served the coffee black

They served the coffee blindfolded

- S-orientation or O-orientation only possible if the PC is optional and depictive

(20) She chopped the wood tired.

- does not mean that she got tired by chopping the wood

3 Predicatives and related elements

3.3 Obligatory and optional PCs

➤ *optional depictives as adjuncts*

- obligatory PCs are clearly complements

Kim became ill

He made Kim furious

- resultative optional PCs are complements

He painted the fence blue

- depictive optional PCs are adjuncts

He ate the steak raw

- since they can have S or DO as predicand
- since they can occur with an obligatory PC
- since they can occur in ditransitive constructions

3 Predicatives and related elements

3.3 Obligatory and optional PCs

- depictive optional PCs with S or DO as predicands

(21) *They served the coffee black*

They served the coffee blindfolded

- depictive optional PCs with an obligatory PC

(22) *They look even more fantastic naked*

- depictive optional PCs occurring in ditransitive constructions

(23) *They served us the coffee black*

3 Predicatives and related elements

3.3 Obligatory and optional PCs

➤ *functions of PC-adjuncts*

– modifier

(24) They left empty-handed

He died young

He was born rich

– supplement

(25) Angry at this deception, Kim stormed out of the room

(26) He was happy as a junior assistant

As a your friend, I offer you both the following advice

3 Predicatives and related elements

3.4 Copular clauses

➤ *ascriptive and specifying be*

(27) *ascriptive*

His daughter is very bright

ascribes a property to the S-argument

(28) *specifying*

The chief of culprit was Kim

specifies S refers to

3 Predicatives and related elements

3.4 Open issues

1. Are there resultative predicative constructions with semantically empty predicators?

be, remain, become, ...

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

- Kim referred to the book
- She put in her application
- I gave up the struggle
- This gave the lie to her critics

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

➤ ***transitive preposition***

selected by the verb

Kim **referred to** the book

➤ ***intransitive preposition***

selected by the verb

She **put in** her application

➤ ***idioms*** with transitive and intransitive Ps

a. I **gave up** the struggle

b. This **gave the lie to** her critics

[showed to be wrong]

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

➤ *transitive preposition*

specified preposition (selected by the verb)

Kim referred [_{PP} **to** the book]

unspecified preposition (not selected by the verb)

Kim flew [_{PP} **to/over/round/** Boston]

▪ *prepositional verbs*

verbs which select a specified preposition

also:

PP as third argument

[He] congratulated [**her**] [_{PP} **on** [_{NP} her promotion]]

predicative P-arguments

That counts [_{PP} **as** [_{AdjP} satisfactory]]

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

➤ ***intransitive preposition*** selected by the verb

She put [**in**] [her application]

they occur between the direct object and the verb
prepositions between DO and the verb are called
particles

- ***particle verbs***

verbs that select particles

also

We cut [**short**] [the debate]

?particle as adjective, ?secondary predication

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

➤ *idioms and verbal idioms*

An *idiom* is an expression larger than a word whose meaning cannot be systematically derived from meanings that the parts have when used independently of each other.

- verbal idioms are idioms where the major element is a verb
 - with intransitive Ps
 - I gave [**up**] [the struggle]
 - with transitive Ps
 - This gave the lie [**to** her critics]

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

➤ verbs and prepositions do ***not*** form ***constituents***

- Kim referred to your book

[To what book] did Kim refer _?

Kim referred [_{PP} to your book]

- He took off the label

He took the label off

He took [_{PART} off] [the label]

- I look forward to seeing you

[to what] are you looking forward _?

- He paid tribute to his parents

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

❖ *prepositional verbs (transitive prepositions)*

▪ *PP-fronting*

relative

open interrogative

it-cleft

unspecified Ps

I flew to Boston
the city to which I flew
To which city did you fly
It was to Boston that I flew

mobile specified Ps

I referred to her book
the book to which I referred
To which book did you refer?
It was to her book that I referred

fixed specified Ps

I came across some old letters
✿ the letters across which I came
✿ Across which letters did you come?
✿ It was across these letters that I came

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

- ***PP-coordination***

- I flew to Boston and to New York
- I referred to her book and to John's
- ✱ I came across these letters and across some odd books

- ***adjunct position***

- I flew regularly to Boston
- I referred repeatedly to her book
- ✱ I came eventually across these letters

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

➤ *transitive clauses*

- He brought Mary to Boston

To which city did he bring Mary?

He brought Mary to Boston and to New York

- He referred me to a specialist

the specialist to whom he referred me

He referred me to an optometrist, but not to an ophthalmologist

- He got Kim through the biology test

✿ It wasn't through the biology test he got her

✿ He got Kim through the biology test, but not through the anatomy one

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

➤ *prepositional passives*

a. unspecified Ps

They flew to Boston next

✱ Boston was flown to next

He slept in this bed

This bed has been slept in

b. mobile specified Ps

They stood for such principles

✱ Such principles were stood for

He referred to her book

Her book was referred to

c. fixed specified Ps

He came across some books

✱ Some books were come across

They must see to these matters

✱ These matters must be seen to

- passivation is independent on a-c, it depends on the verb

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

➤ *Constituent structure*

- *mobile specified P*

I [_V referred] [_{PP} to her book]

- *fixed specified P*

I [_V came] [_{PP} across some old letters] *fossilised*

– Why fossilised V-PP structure and not P-incorporation into V? – cf.:

✱ He came **across** **later that morning** **a letter she wrote** **just before her marriage.**

The **adverbial** cannot intervene between P and N

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

➤ *Complementation patterns with prepositional verbs*

I. verb – [prep + O]

I referred to her book

I [_{VP} [_{VP} referred] [_{PP} to [_{NP} her book]]]

call for, come by (Fossilisation), *feel for* (Passivation), *get over* (P, F)

II. verb – O – [prep + O]

I intended it for Kim

I [_{VP} [_{VP} intended [_{DP} it]] [_{PP} for [Kim]]]

accuse ... of, entitle ... to, let ... into (F), *get ... through* (F)

III. verb – [prep + O] – [prep + O]

He complained to Kim about Bill

he [_{VP} [_{VP} [VP complain] [_{PP} to Kim]] [_{PP} about Bill]]

agree with ... about, appeal to ... for ...

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

iv. verb – [prep + PC]

It counts as too short

It [_{VP} [_{VP} counts] [_{PP} as [_{AdjP} too short]]]

act, function, retire, serve, stand, ...

v. verb – O – [prep + PC]

They regard it as successful

They [_{VP} [_{VP} regard it] [_{PP} as successful]]

i. *accept ... as, condemn ... as, regard ... as, suggest ... as, take ... for*

ii. *appoint ... (as), nominate ... (as), consider ... (as), elect (as), ...*

vi. verb – [prep + O] – [prep + PC]

He thinks of it as indispensable

He [_{VP} [_{VP} [_{VP} thinks] [_{PP} of it]] [_{PP} as indispensable]]

agree on ... as, conceive of ... as, refer to ... as,

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

❖ *particle verbs*

▪ *particle*

phrase functioning as complement of a verb

which can be positioned between the verb and an NP object (NP is a proper noun or a common noun)

*she brought **down** the bed*

*she brought the bed **down***

✱ *she brought **downstairs** the bed*

*she brought the bed **downstairs***

Extraposition:

*she brought **downstairs** **the bed that she had inherited***

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

➤ *particles*

usually uninflected words (?)

- prepositions

aboard (Transitive), down (T), aside, up
she brought down the price

- adjectives (?)

he made clear his intentions
they cut short their holiday

- verbs

he let go his hand

free particles

idioms

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

➤ *contrast: particles and prepositions*

She took off the label

She jumped off the wall

▪ *reversion with particles*

She took **off** the label

She took the label **off**

She jumped off the wall

VERB – PART – NP

✱ She jumped the wall off

▪ *P with unstressed pronoun*

she jumped **off it**

VERB – P + NP

✱ she took off it

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

- ***PP-fronting***

VERB – P + NP

the wall **off which** she jumped _

✿ the label off which she took _

but fixed transitive Ps:

He got me through the biology test

✿ Through which test did he get you?

- ***Ps can be repeated in coordination***

VERB – P + NP

Did she jump off the wall or off the balcony?

✿ Did she take off the red label or off the yellow one?

- ***manner adverb insertion***

VERB – P + NP

She jumped fearlessly off the wall

✿ She took carefully off the label

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

➤ *homonymous sequences*

He shouted down his opponent

PART

He shouted down the phone

P+NP

They turned in the wrong direction

P+NP

They turned in the fugitives

PART

She ran off another copy

PART

She ran off the road

P+NP

He got over his disappointment quickly

P+NP

He got over his message clearly

PART

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

❖ *verbal idioms*

➤ *with intransitive prepositions*

The intransitive Ps that are found in verbal idioms are ones which in free combinations have locative meanings.

I jumped [down the wall]

PP

I jumped down

PP

I jumped down (from the wall)

PP PP'

PP' specifies the PP *down*

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

➤ further examples

She walked with us most of the way, and then suddenly ran **ahead** <of us>

I didn't put sugar **in** <your tea>

I'll take the tablecloth **off** <the table>

Don't go **away** <from me>

Come **back** <to this place>

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

- Verbal idioms with intransitive prepositions are an important feature of the English vocabulary. They are very frequent, especially in informal speech

We'd better **take in** the children's toys.

[move into the house]

They supplement their income by **taking in** students.

[renting to]

Grammar **takes in** syntax and morphology.

[includes]

I thought we might **take in** a show after dinner

[see]

- Lexicalisation may be accompanied in varying degrees by fossilisation, i.e. the loss of the ability to undergo manipulations found with comparable free combinations

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

- *preposing*

It went **down**

Down it went

It broke **down**

✱ **Down** it broke

- *adjunct insertion*

She climbed *slowly* **up**

✱ She gave *slowly* **up**

- *order alternation*

He carried **out** **the chairs**

He carried **the chairs** **out**

He carried **out** **his threat**

? He carried **his threat** **out**

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

- examples where the particle normally precedes the object

by in [food]

fork out [money]

let out [cry]

find out [discover]

give off [sound]

pour out [feelings]

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

- Examples where the preposition must follow the object (unless the latter is not heavy)

His arrogance turned [people] **off** [make so. sick]

?His arrogance turned **off** [people]

By definition, the preposition is not a particle

answer back

draw out [person]

have on [tease]

leave alone

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

➤ *construction types with intransitive prepositions*

i. verb – prep

He gave **in**

back down, climb down, grow up, sit down, take off, ...

ii. verb – prep – O

She mixed **up** [the tickets]

She mixed [the tickets] up

beat up, bring about, bring up, call off, explain away, ...

iii. verb – IO – prep – DO

I ran [him] **off** [another copy]

bring up, get in, give back, serve out, pay back, ...

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

iv. verb – prep – transitive PP

We look **forward** [to your visit]

We look **forward** **eagerly** [to your visit]

[To what] are you looking **forward** eagerly _?

We had run **up** [against the difficulty]

?[the difficulty against which] we had run up _

Fossilisation

cash in on, look out for (F), come down on (F), stand up to, ...

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

v. verb – O – prep – transitive PP

I let [her] in [on a little secret]

[let so. into a secret]

but

He played off [Bill] [against Kim]

Kim [[against whom] he played off [Bill] _]

He intended to let [me] in [for a shock]

[get so. into a real fix]

*the shock [[for which] he intended to let [me] in _]

bring ... in on (F), give ... up to, take ... out on, ...

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

vi. verb – prep – (as) PC

She ended **up** [(as) captain]

come across (as), come over (as) , turn out, wind up (as)

vii. verb – O – prep – [as + PC]

This showed [him] **up** [as spineless]

come across as, come over as, step down as, end up (as), ...

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

➤ *verbal idioms with transitive prepositions*

i. neither ordinary nor prepositional passive

She lost patience [**with** the secretary]

*patience was lost with the secretary

*the secretary was lost patience with
give birth to, make friends with, ...

ii. ordinary but no prepositional passive

They cast doubt [**on** his motives]

doubt was cast on his motives

*His motives were cast doubt on

do justice to, give credence to, raise an objection to, ...

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

iii. prepositional passive but no ordinary passive

We lost sight [of our goal]

our goal was lost sight of

*sight was lost of our goal

catch sight of (F), give the lie to, give way to, ...

iv. either type

They made good use [of the extra time]

good use was mad of the extra time

the extra time was made good use of

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

➤ *verbal idioms with other types*

▪ *verb + adjective*

He cut [_{PART} **short**] [the debate]

He cut [the debate] **short**

cut open, make clear, put right, put straight

I'll make [_{PART} **sure**] [_{CP} it's ready]

She didn't think **it necessary** [_{CP} to respond]

I'll make **it obvious** [_{CP} that I'm dissatisfied]

He made (**it**) **clear** [_{CP} that he meant business]

it is an correlate

but:

S – P – PC complex intransitive

this prediction became [_{AdjP} **true**]

no verbal idiom

4 The clause: complements

6. Special verb + preposition combination and related types of complementation

- ***verb + verb***

Kim gave Bill to **understand** [to leave her]

- ***verb + noun***

He bought **a pup** [be cheated]

I'll put **it** on the back burner [postpone sth.]

I've **half a mind** [to accept your offer] [tend to believe]

- **? verb + PP**

He had **in mind** [to change his will]

It brought **to light** [how devious he had been]

4 The clause: complements

7 Light verbs

➤ *General issues*

Light verbs are semantically 'light'

She gave him a kiss

She **kissed** him

light verb

associated verb

I made a calculation of the costs

I **calculated** the costs

He had a look at my draft

He **looked** at my draft

We took a rest

We **rested**

She did a dance

She **danced**

4 The clause: complements

7 Light verbs

➤ *Ambiguities*

I had a bath

I bathed (in a bath)

I owned a bath

I had a shave

I shaved (myself)

I had someone shave me

He gave him a lick

He licked him

He allowed him to have a lick (of his ice cream)

4 The clause: complements

7 Light verbs

➤ ***Syntactic and semantic differences between light verb and their associated constructions***

- She gave him an unusually passionate kiss
 ?= She kissed him unusually passionately
- We took a well-earned rest
 ?= We rested
- I've already had two showers today
 - I already showered twice today
- She made three very astute comments on his suggestion
 ≠ She commented three times very astutely on his suggestion
- He made a scream
 ≠ He screamed

4 The clause: complements

7 Light verbs

- He had a drink of my milk
≠ He drank my milk
He drank only part of the milk vs. He drank it all
- He had a walk in/*to the park
≠ He walked in/to the park
recreational activity vs. accomplishment
- He had a lie down
≠ He lay down
the purpose of lying down is to rest vs. a non specified purpose
- He had/took pity on them
≠ He pitied them
dynamic: he felt pity and did sth. for them vs. description of a state

4 The clause

8 verbs with multiple patterns of complementations

I. *transitive/intransitive contrast*

$S_{intr} = S_{trans}$	$S_{intr} = O_{trans}$		
They shot him They shot at him	The sun radiates heat Heat radiates from the sun	O compl. PP compl.	
She drank some water She drank	He broke the vase The vase broke	+O - O	
shoot y, x O S x S y x A S	drink y, x O S x S	radiate y, x O S x S x, y A, S	break y, x O S y S

4 The clause

8 verbs with multiple patterns of complementations

II. *ditransitive/monotransitive contrast*

$DO_{mono} = DO_{ditrans}$	$DO_{mono} = IO_{ditrans}$		
I gave her the key I gave the key to her	I envied him his freedom I envied him for his freedom	IO compl. PP compl.	
They offered us \$100 They offered \$100	They fined us \$100 They fined us	+IO - IO	
give z, y, x DO IO S z, x DO S z, y, x DO A S	envy z, y, x DO IO S z, x DO S z, y, x DO A S	offer z, y, x DO IO S z, x DO S z, y, x DO A S	fine z, y, x DO IO S y, x DO S

4 The clause

8 verbs with multiple patterns of complementations

III. Further core/non contrasts

O vs. NON-CORE COMPL	S vs. NON-CORE COMPL		
He supplies arms to the rebels He supplies the rebels with arms	Bees are swarming in the garden The garden is swarming with bees	constant valency	
I wiped the marks off the wall I wiped the wall	We covered the grave with leaves Leaves covered the grave	different valency	
supply z, y, x O A S y, z, x O A S	swarm y, x A S x, y A S	wipe z, y, x O A S y, x O S	cover z, y, x O A S z, y O S

4 The clause

8 verbs with multiple patterns of complementations

IV. Separate complements vs combined complements

separate complements

She kissed [him] [on the cheek]

combined complements

She kissed [his neck]

4 The clause

8 verbs with multiple patterns of complementations

❖ *transitive/intransitive contrasts*

➤ *they shot him vs they shot at him* (see slide [1](#))

- *conative intransitives*

The horse kicked me

⇒ success

The horse kicked at me

⇒ endeavour of kicking (= conative)

shoot (at), cut (at), sniff (at), push (at), nibble (at/on)...

- *directional movement*

She climbed the tree

She climbed up the tree

They fled the building

They fled from the building

4 The clause

8 verbs with multiple patterns of complementations

- ***consultation and contest***

Kim met the dean

more general, rather symmetric (she met him in a bus)

Kim met with the dean

for a particular purpose, e.g. consultation

battle, box, consult, fight, visit

- ***emission***

He was dripping blood

He was dripping with blood

- ***others***

They were speaking English

They were speaking in English

4 The clause

8 verbs with multiple patterns of complementations

➤ *the sun radiates heat vs heat radiates from the sun*

(see slide [1](#))

Emission of some substance or quality

His wound was oozing blood

Blood was oozing from his wound

The reforms will benefit women

Women will benefit from the reforms

dribble, drip, emanate, leak, spurt, ...

4 The clause

8 verbs with multiple patterns of complementations

➤ *He drank some water vs He drank*

i. basically transitives used intransitively

The intransitive is interpreted as having an unexpressed object

He is reading a book

He is reading

We had met before one another

We had met before

She drinks a glass of beer

She doesn't drink

ii. basically intransitives used transitively

They were talking nonsense

He died a long and agonising death

4 The clause

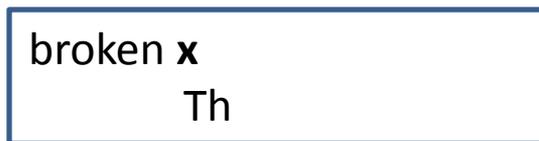
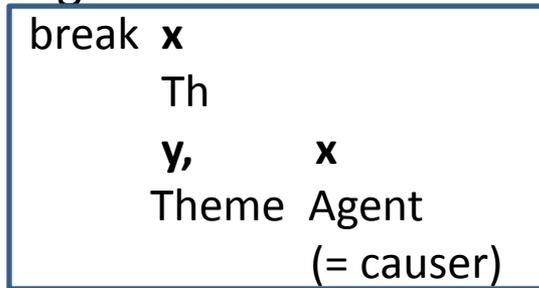
8 verbs with multiple patterns of complementations

➤ *He broke the vase vs The vase broke* (see slide [1](#))

▪ ***non-agentive dynamic intransitive***

The intransitive denotes a change of state

- I broke the vase
- The vase broke
- The vase is broken
- I opened the door
- I widened the gap
- I tore my shirt



bend, change, crack, divide, drop, freeze, improve, vary, ...
*construct (*Intransitive), destroy(*I), touch(*I), ...*
*die (*Transitive), emerge (*T), fall (*T), ...*

4 The clause

8 verbs with multiple patterns of complementations

- ***non-agentive static intransitive***

The intransitive denotes a state

The ladder leant against the wall (cf. slide [9](#))

I leant the ladder against the wall

hang, rest, sit, stand, hurt, ...

- ***agentive intransitives***

The S of the intransitive is an Agent combined with that of a Theme. The transitive involves getting the person or whatever to act in the given way:

The dog walked

We walked the dog

canter, gallop, run, walk, jump

**jog, *meander, *saunter, ...*

4 The clause

8 verbs with multiple patterns of complementations

- ***'Middle' intransitives***

She doesn't frighten easily

(Someone or something does not frighten her easily)

- i. The causer cannot be expressed by a by-phrase
 - ii. The clause is concerned whether and how the subject referent undergoes the process expressed in the verb.
 - iii. The clause is negative, or is headed by a modal auxiliary
 - iv. The clause expresses a general state.
- They differ from passive constructions:
- The shirt irons well
- The shirt was ironed well
- a. *alarm, amuse, offend, please, shock, ...*
 - b. *clean, cut, hammer iron, read, wash*
(allow single event interpretations)

4 The clause

8 verbs with multiple patterns of complementations

❖ *Ditransitive/monotransitive contrasts* (cf. slide [2](#))

➤ *I gave her the key vs I gave the key to her*

i. DI + DO and O + A[to]

award, bring, show, promise, tell, ...

ii. only O + A[to]

confess, donate, explain, refer, say, ...

iii. DI + DO and O + A[for]

bake, cook, find, hire, order, rent, ...

iv. only O + A[for]

acquire, borrow, collect, recover, spare

v. only DI + DO

allow, bet, cost, fine, refuse, wish, ...

give	z,	y,	x
	Theme	R(ecipient)/	Agent
		B(eneficiary)/	
		S(ource)	

DO	IO	if R or S
----	----	-----------

DO	A[to]	if R
----	-------	------

DO	A[for]	if B
----	--------	------

? DI or A[for] in iii and iv are rather adverbials, i.e. no complements (cf. H & P 2002:313)

4 The clause

8 verbs with multiple patterns of complementations

- ***I envied him this freedom vs I envied him for his freedom*** (cf. slide [2](#))

I can't forgive him his lies

I can't forgive him **for** his lies

envy, excuse, ...

He served us a sumptuous meal

He served us **with** a sumptuous meal

issue (only Br E with IO), leave, ?provide, serve

- ***They offered us \$100 vs They offered \$100***

In general, the IO is omissible except with *wish*

– The omitted IO is understood as Recipient

4 The clause

8 verbs with multiple patterns of complementations

- *They fined us \$100 vs They fined us* (see slide [2](#))

fine

tip

fine	z,	y,	x
	T	B	A
		y,	x
*	z,		x

charge, bet, cost, envy, excuse,
forgive, refuse, show, teach, tell

charge	z,	y,	x
	T	B	A
		y,	x
	z,		x

4 The clause

8 verbs with multiple patterns of complementations

❖ *Further core/non-core contrasts*

- *He supplies arms to the rebels vs He supplies the rebels with arms* (see slide [3](#))

He presented a prize to Kim

He presented Kim with a prize

He blamed the accident on Kim

He blamed Kim for the accident

▪ present	z,	y,	x
	T	R	
	O	A[to]	
	A[with]	O	

to and with: credit, entrust, provide, supply, trust, ...

only with: arm, equip, regale, reward, saddle

blame	O	A[on]
	A[for]	O

as for further types see H & P (2002:314-321)

4 The clause

9 Prepositional stranding

❖ *Preposition stranding*

Prepositions that are left behind when a PP moves to the left periphery

- She was talking [_{PP} to a man]

no P-stranding

the man [_{CP} [_{PP} to [_{NP} whom]]_i she was talking [_{PP} _]_i]

[_{CP} [_{PP} to [_{NP} whom]]_i was she talking [_{PP} _]_i]

it was the man [_{CP} [_{PP} to [_{NP} whom]]_i was she talking [_{PP} _]_i]

P-stranding

the man [_{CP} [_{NP} who(m)]_i she was talking [_{PP} to [_{NP} _]_i]]

[_{CP} [_{NP} who(m)]_i was she talking [_{PP} to [_{NP} _]_i]]

it was the man [_{CP} [_{NP} who(m)]_i she was talking [_{PP} to [_{NP} _]_i]]

4 The clause

9 Prepositional stranding

➤ *Prepositional stranding and mobile and fixed prepositions*

▪ *mobile prepositions*

I referred to her book

the book $[_{CP} [_{PP} \text{to which}]_i]$ I referred $[_{PP} _]_i$

$[_{CP} [_{PP} \text{To which book}]_i]$ did you refer $[_{PP} _]_i$?

It was $[_{NP} \text{the book } [_{CP} [_{PP} \text{to which}]_i]$ I referred $[_{PP} _]_i$]

▪ *fixed prepositions*

I came across some old letters

*the letters $[_{CP} [_{PP} \text{across which}]_i]$ I came $[_{PP} _]_i$

* $[_{CP} [_{PP} \text{Across which letters}]_i]$ did you come $[_{PP} _]_i$?

*It was $[_{PP} \text{across } [_{NP} \text{these letters}]]$ $[_{CP} \text{that I came } [_{PP} _]]$

⇒ no PP-preposing possible with fixed prepositions

4 The clause

9 Prepositional stranding

- *P-stranding is obligatory with fixed prepositions*

*the letters [_{CP} [_{PP} across which]_i I came [_{PP} _]_i]

*[_{CP} [_{PP} Across which letters]_i did you come [_{PP} _]_i]?

*It was [_{PP} across [_{NP} these letters]] [_{CP} that I came [_{PP} _]]

the letters [_{CP} [_{NP} which]_i I came [_{PP} across [_{NP} _]_i]]

[_{CP} [_{PP} Which letters]_i did you come [_{PP} across [_{NP} _]_i]]

It was [_{NP} these letters]_i [_{CP} that I came [_{PP} across [_{NP} _]_i]]

4 The clause

9 Prepositional stranding

➤ *distribution of P-stranding*

There has been a long prescriptive tradition of condemning P-stranding as grammatically incorrect. 'It is incorrect to end a sentence with a preposition'.

The 'rule' was apparently created ex nihilo in 1672 by the essayist John Dryden, who took exception to Ben Jonson's Phrase *the bodies that those souls were frightened from* (1611). Dryden was in effect suggesting that Jonson should have written *the bodies from which those souls were frightened*, but he offers no reason for preferring this to the original.

But the construction has been used for centuries by the finest writers. Everyone who listens to Standard English hears examples of it every day.

4 The clause

9 Prepositional stranding

➤ *distribution of P-stranding*

- *preposing*

Your father I'm even more deeply indebted to.

- *open interrogative*

Who are they doing it for?

- *exclamative*

What a magnificent table the vase was standing on!

- *wh relative*

He's the one who I bought it from.

4 The clause

9 Prepositional stranding

- ***non-wh relative***

He's the one (that) I bought it from.

- ***comparative***

Kim went to the same school as I went to.

- ***hollow clause***

His performance was easy to find fault with.

- ***passive***

The bed looks as if it has been slept in.

4 The clause

9 Prepositional stranding

- ***preposing***

[_{CP} [_{NP} **Your father**]_i | I'm even more deeply indebted [_{PP} **to** [_{NP_}]_i]]

- ***open interrogative***

[_{CP} [_{NP} **who**]_i | are they doing it [_{PP} **for** [_{NP_}]_i]]

- ***exclamative***

[_{CP} [_{NP} **What a magnificent table**]_i | the vase was standing [_{PP} **on** [_{NP_}]_i]]

- ***wh relative***

[_{CP} He's [_{NP} [_{NP} the one] [_{CP} [_{NP} **who**]_i | I bought it [_{PP} **from** [_{NP_}]_i]]]]

⇒ The antecedent for the gap ' _ ' is in prenuclear (|) position (SpecCP)

Non-preposition stranding constructions are possible. They are called ***PP fronting constructions***

4 The clause

9 Prepositional stranding

➤ *corresponding PP fronting constructions*

▪ *preposing*

[_{CP} [_{NP} Your father]_i | I'm even more deeply indebted [_{PP} to [_{NP}]_i]]

☞ [_{CP} [_{PP} to [_{NP} Your father]]_i | I'm even more deeply indebted [_{PP}]_i]

▪ *open interrogative*

[_{CP} [_{NP} who]_i | are they doing it [_{PP} for [_{NP}]_i]]

☞ [_{CP} [_{PP} For [_{NP} whom]]_i | are they doing it [_{PP}]_i]

▪ *exclamative*

[_{CP} [_{NP} What a magnificent table]_i | the vase was standing [_{PP} on [_{NP}]_i]]

☞ [_{CP} [_{PP} On [_{NP} what a magnificent table]]_i | the vase was standing [_{PP}]_i]

▪ *wh relative*

[_{CP} He's [_{NP} [_{NP} the one] [_{CP} [_{NP} who]_i | I bought it [_{PP} from [_{NP}]_i]]]]

☞ [_{CP} He's [_{NP} [_{NP} the one] [_{CP} [_{PP} from [_{NP} whom]]_i | I bought it [_{PP}]_i]]]]

4 The clause

9 Prepositional stranding

➤ *no corresponding PP fronting constructions*

▪ *non-wh relative*

He's the one (that) I bought it from.

[_{CP} He's [_{NP} [_{NP} the one] [_{CP} ([*that*]_i) | I bought it [_{PP} **from** [_{NP}__i]]]]]

*[_{CP} He's [_{NP} [_{NP} the one] [_{CP} [_{PP} **from** [_{NP} *that*]]_i | I bought it [_{PP}__i]]]]

[_{CP} He's [_{NP} [_{NP} the one] [_{CP} [_{PP} **from** [_{NP} *whom*]]_i | I bought it [_{PP}__i]]]]

▪ *comparative*

Kim went to the same school as I went to.

Kim went to the same school as I did.

▪ *hollow clause*

His performance was easy to find fault with.

It was easy to find fault with his performance

▪ *passive*

The bed looks as if it has been slept in.

This bed looks as if someone has slept in it

4 The clause

9 Prepositional stranding

➤ ***style level of preposition stranding***

There is a tendency for preposition stranding to be avoided in the most formal style.

☺ To whom may we appeal?

☹ Who can we appeal to?

☹ A colleague we are so much indebted to

☺ A colleague to whom we are so much indebted

4 The clause

9 Prepositional stranding

➤ *inadmissible PP fronting*

- *fused relative constructions*

Somebody has to clean what graffiti artists write on.

* Somebody has to clean on what graffiti artists write. (see Ch 12 §6)

- *subord. interrogatives functioning as complement of a preposition*

We can't agree on which grant we should apply for.

*We can't agree on for which grant we should apply.

- *complement of prepositional verb or verbal idiom*

What are you asking for?

?For what are you asking

My brother, you can certainly rely on.

?On my brother, you can certainly rely

4 The clause

9 Prepositional stranding

➤ *inadmissible prepositional stranding*

- *the gap preceds a content clause*

To whom did she declare _ that she was not going to take any more abuse?

*Who did she declare to _ that she was not going to take any more abuse?

- *the PP is itself complement of a larger PP*

From under which couch did you rescue the pen?

*Under which couch did you rescue the pen from?

*From which couch did you rescue the pen?

But:

Which account did you take the money out of? (*of* is selected by *out*)

Out of which account did you take the money?

4 The clause

9 Prepositional stranding

- ***elliptical interrogatives where the NP consist of more than one word***

I've got an interview at 2, but I do not know who_i with __i

I've got an interview at 2, but I do not know with whom

I've got an interview at 2, but I do not know with which tutor.

* I've got an interview at 2, but I do not know which tutor_i with __i.

- ***the gap occurs at the end of the subject NP***

To the left is a door to which the key has been lost.

*To the left is a door which_i the key to has been lost. (see slide 29)

- ***the PP is in adjunct function***

Under what circumstances would you do a thing like that?

*What circumstances would you do a thing like that under?

4 The clause

9 Prepositional stranding

- ***the gap occurs at the end of the subject NP***

To the left is a door to which the key has been lost.

To the left is

[_{NP} [_{NP} a door [_{CP} [_{PP} to which]_i [_{NP} the key [_{PP} _]_i] has been lost]]]

*To the left is a door which the key to has been lost.

*To the left is

[_{NP} [_{NP} a door [_{CP} [_{NP} which]_i [_{NP} the key [_{PP} to [_{NP} _]_i]] has been lost]]]