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Subject verb complement worksheets

by Craig Shives An object complement is a noun, a pronoun, or an adjective that follows a direct object to rename it or state what it has become. For example: I can make John available. (In this example, the direct object is "John." The object complement is "available.") Table of Contents Examples of Object Complements Verbs That Attract Object Complements Other Types of Complement Why Object Complements Are Important Printable Test Here are some more examples of object complements: I found the guard sleeping. We all consider her unworthy. I declare this centre open. We consider fish spoiled once it smells like what it is. To obtain a man's opinion of you, make him mad. (Physician and poet Oliver Wendell Holmes) An object complement is not always one word. It could be a phrase. For example: I found the guard sleeping in the barn. We all consider her unworthy of the position. Verbs of making (e.g., "to make," "to create") or naming (e.g., "to name," "to call," "to elect") often attract an object complement. In the examples below, the object complements are shaded and the direct objects are in bold. To make her happy To name her Heidi However, lots of verbs can take an object complement.

Subject and Object Complements

Underline the object complement in each sentence.

Example: Christopher **is** **my** **favorite** **book**.

- The children **named** John **Cocoon** **his** **living**.
- She **got** **her** **new** **Michelle's** **blue** **and** **red**.
- The **school** **named** **Walter** **the** **new** **best** **gift**.
- Many **teachers** **consider** **the** **writing** **to** **be** **my** **best**.
- The **teacher** **is** **calling** **my** **friend**.
- Students **putting** **on** **new** **school** **making** **my**.
- We **are** **planning** **to** **visit** **the** **book** **service**.
- The **paper** **will** **come** **back** **the** **new** **open**.
- How **is** **my** **friend** **feeling** **happy** **as** **a** **first** **cup** **of** **tea** **after** **break**.
- Finally **passed** **her** **class** **among** **the** **champion**.

For example: To consider someone stupid To paint something purple To catch somebody stealing If you're learning about object complements, it is worth comparing them to subject complements. A subject complement is a word or phrase that follows a linking verb and identifies or describes the subject. For example (subject complements in bold): John is the captain. Myra looks angry. (In these examples, "the captain" and "angry" are the subject complements. They follow linking verbs ("is" and "looks") to tell us about the subjects ("John" and "Myra".) Now compare the subject complements above with the object complements in the similar-looking examples below. (In these examples, the objects are in bold and the object complements are shaded.) We named John the captain. We made Myra angry. (The verbs are "named" and "made." The object complements tell us about the objects of the verbs ("John" and "Myra".) Read more about subject complements. Read more about complements in general. Native English speakers have few problems when using a construction like "to make them happy" or "to consider the job finished." Such constructions do not cause too many difficulties for English learners either. However, if you're learning a foreign language (like Russian) that puts its complements in a different case (the instrumental case in the case of Russian), then you should pay more attention to spotting complements. For native English speakers, the biggest writing issue related to complements occurs more commonly with subject complements, but, it can also occur with object complements too. A complement is an adjective, noun, or pronoun. It's never an adverb. Look at this example: The garlic has made the soup awful. (An object complement cannot be an adverb.) The garlic has made the soup awful. (Here, the object complement is an adjective.) This is a rare mistake with object complements. It is far more common with subject complements. For example: The soup tastes awfully. (A subject complement cannot be an adverb.) The soup tastes awful.

Subject Complements

Rule: A subject complement is a word or phrase that follows a linking verb and identifies or describes the subject. For example: John is the captain. Myra looks angry. (In these examples, "the captain" and "angry" are the subject complements. They follow linking verbs ("is" and "looks") to tell us about the subjects ("John" and "Myra".) Now compare the subject complements above with the object complements in the similar-looking examples below. (In these examples, the objects are in bold and the object complements are shaded.) We named John the captain. We made Myra angry. (The verbs are "named" and "made." The object complements tell us about the objects of the verbs ("John" and "Myra".) Read more about subject complements. Read more about complements in general. Native English speakers have few problems when using a construction like "to make them happy" or "to consider the job finished." Such constructions do not cause too many difficulties for English learners either. However, if you're learning a foreign language (like Russian) that puts its complements in a different case (the instrumental case in the case of Russian), then you should pay more attention to spotting complements. For native English speakers, the biggest writing issue related to complements occurs more commonly with subject complements, but, it can also occur with object complements too. A complement is an adjective, noun, or pronoun. It's never an adverb. Look at this example: The garlic has made the soup awful. (An object complement cannot be an adverb.) The garlic has made the soup awful. (Here, the object complement is an adjective.) This is a rare mistake with object complements. It is far more common with subject complements. For example: The soup tastes awfully. (A subject complement cannot be an adverb.) The soup tastes awful.

Example: John **is** **the** **captain**. Myra **looks** **angry**. We **named** **John** **the** **captain**. We **made** **Myra** **angry**.

(Here, the subject complement is an adjective.) Ironically, this mistake occurs most commonly with people who consciously think about whether they should be using adjectives or adverbs. Your complement can't be an adverb. She looks amazingly. She looks amazing. Help Us Improve Grammar Monster Do you disagree with something on this page? Did you spot a typo? Find Us Quicker! When using a search engine (e.g., Google, Bing), you will find Grammar Monster quicker if you add #gm to your search term.

Subject Complements

subject complements – a noun, pronoun, or an adjective that completes the meaning of a *linking verb*
 – there are two types: predicate adjective and predicate nominative

- Which sentence has a subject complement?
- I like penguins.
 - The children were excited.
 - We are going to the museum this weekend.

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