Today

Complements of VPs, cont’d

– PrepPhrase complements
– Indirect objects
– Particpial complements
– WH-complements
– Other clausal complements

Reading: pp. 254-259, 261-270
Complements of verbs

Direct Objects
Subjective complements
Objective complements
Prepositional phrase complements
Indirect Objects
Participial complements
WH-complement clauses
Other clausal complements
Complements of verbs

Prepositional Phrase complements

Often subcategorized (or selected) by certain verbs that require information about location, direction, etc.

The boy went to school.
She talked to the principal.
Jorge put the book in the box.
Conor asked for help.
Complements of verbs

Prepositional Phrase complements

Note: The verb often determines the type(s) of Prep in the complement

The boy went to school.

*at
*for
*of
*on
Complements of verbs

Prepositional Phrase complements

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{VP} & \quad \text{PP} \\
\text{went} & \quad \text{to school} \quad \text{about dogs}
\end{align*}
\]
Complements of verbs

Prepositional Phrase complements

```
VP
  V     (NP)     PP
  went   the box  to school
  talked about dogs
  put    on the table
```
Complements of verbs

Indirect object

NP object of ditransitive verb that, semantically, is the receiver, beneficiary or goal of a direct object

Sam gave the clerk the money.
Phoebe sent her brother a package.
Stefan showed his class the video.
Miles made his mother a card.
Complements of verbs

Indirect object

Originate as NP complements of prep. *to*, *for*; undergo movement in front of *d.o.*

Sam gave the money to the clerk.
Sam gave the clerk the money.

Phoebe sent a package to her brother.
Phoebe sent her brother a package.
Complements of verbs

Indirect objects

Objects of prep. that are *not* i.o. cannot undergo such movement

Phoebe hid the package from her brother.
*Phoebe hid *her brother* the package.  (≠ i.o.)

Stefan baked a cake for money.
*Stefan baked *money* a cake.  (≠ i.o.)
Complements of verbs

Indirect objects

Before movement

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{baked} & \quad \text{a cake} \quad \text{for Munro}
\end{align*}
\]
Complements of verbs

Indirect objects

Before movement

\[ \text{VP} \rightarrow \text{VP} \]

\[ \text{V} \rightarrow \text{V} \]

\[ \text{NP} \rightarrow \text{NP} \]

\[ \text{PP} \rightarrow \text{PP} \]

\[ \text{D.O.} \rightarrow \text{I.O.} \]

\[ \text{baked a cake for Munro} \]

After I.O. movement

\[ \text{V} \rightarrow \text{V} \]

\[ \text{NP} \rightarrow \text{NP} \]

\[ \text{D.O.} \rightarrow \text{I.O.} \]

baked Munro a cake
Complements of verbs

Participial complements

VP complements headed by present participle verbs (-ing)

Sue started studying for the exam.
Chev keeps talking in class.
Lon finished eating before work.
Igor loves swimming in the pool.

Typically selected by temporal aspect verbs: start, begin, commence, keep, finish, stop…
Complements of verbs

Participial complements

S
   /\     /\    /
 NP  Aux  VP  NP
  /\     V  /\    /
 N  PAST V  reading

They started reading the book.
Complements of verbs

They would have finished eating lunch.
Complements of verbs

WH-complement clauses
A clause in which WH-movement has occurred, forming an *indirect question*

I wonder **who** she likes __.

The waiter asked **what** we wanted __ for lunch.

He doesn’t know **how** they got here __.

Typically used with verbs like *wonder, ask, know*...
Complements of verbs

WH-complement clauses

WH-complements can be tensed/finite…

I wonder when the recession will be over.
Emma asked which hat Eric liked better.

… or infinitival/non-finite…

I will decide when to leave.
He doesn’t know where to go.
Complements of verbs

WH-complement clauses (finite)

S
  /  
/   
NP  Aux  VP
  /    |
/     
 I    PRES V

S
  /     
/      
NP  who  VP
  /    
/     
 Aux  PRES V
    
   NP  
    she
Complements of verbs

WH-complement clauses (non-finite)

He knows where to go.

No AUX = non-finite
Complements of verbs

WH-complement clauses

Some WH-complements can be introduced by the complementizers *whether* or *if*

I wonder *if* the recession will be over soon.

Emma asked *whether* Eric liked the hat.

Unlike complementizer *that*, *whether/if* are not optional…

I wonder *whether/if* Bobo ate.

*I wonder __ Bobo ate.*
Complements of verbs

**WH-complement clauses**

*whether* can be used with finite or infinitival clauses…

I wonder whether John left.
I wonder whether **to leave**.  (note ‘*’ typo for 74b, p. 267)

* if can only be used with *tensed* clause…

He wonders if we **should** leave.
*He wonders if **to leave**.
Complements of verbs

WH-complement clauses
Can have *either* a moved WH-phrase *or* a WH-complementizer, but not both.

I asked *if* why John left.
*I asked *if why* John left.*

WHY? They occupy the same position in the tree.
Complements of verbs

WH-complement clauses

I wonder if NP

why

WH-complementizers occur in same position as moved WH-word

S

NP N PRES V

why

V

S

NP N PAST V

left
Complements of verbs

Other clausal complements (review)

Subordinate clauses that serve as compl.

– Finite (tensed) clauses
  Nora heard that she was promoted.

– Non-finite clauses
  I want to travel to Italy.  (To-inf.)
  She made the boy redo the homework. (Bare inf.)
  I heard the bells ringing. (Particip.)
Complements of verbs

Subordinate clause complements

LING 100 McGarrity
## Review: Phrasal complements of verbs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phrase</th>
<th>Compl.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flora seemed very happy.</td>
<td>AP subj.compl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He looked for a job.</td>
<td>PP PrepP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee based his claim on lies.</td>
<td>NP PP d.o. PrepP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I read Miles a story.</td>
<td>NP NP i.o. d.o.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He finds Dora funny.</td>
<td>NP AP d.o. obj.compl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They stopped talking at once.</td>
<td>VP particip. compl.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Review:
Clausal complements of verbs

She knows who is on the phone.
He began to study in earnest.
He made the boy do the dishes.
We don’t know if he was injured.
Review:
Clausal complements of verbs

She knows **who is on the phone.**  
He began **to study in earnest.**  
He made the boy do the dishes.  
We don’t know if **he was injured.**

- **wh-complement**
- **to-infinitive clause**
- **bare-inf. clause**
- **wh-complementizer**
Complements of verbs

Participial complements

Note that these –ing verbs are *active*, not stative

She started **studying** for the exam.

*She started **knowing** the answers. (= stative)

Lon finished **eating** before work.

*Lon finished **seeming** hungry. (= stative)