



IIT Madras

BSc Degree

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Required and Optional Elements in English Sentences (Complements and Adjuncts)

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Sentence

- Sentence = [Subject + Predicate]
- Predicate = [Verb + Object(s) [adjuncts/adverbs]]
 - Verbs can be transitive and intransitive.
- Complements vs. Adjunct
- Objects are Complements
- Adverbs are Adjuncts

Things to notice ...

- All sentences will have subjects and predicates.
- Order of words in a sentence
 - [[Subject] [verb] object adverbs]]
- **Subject and verb in predicate agree with each other in English sentences.**

Subjects and Predicates in Sentences

- [John] [loves Mary].
- [John] [likes pizza] [with his friends].
- [John and Mary] [like0 pizza] [in the evening].

Imperative Sentences

- (You) come here.
- (You) sit down.
- (You) drink a glass of water before food.

Complements

- A complement is an essential (structurally indispensable) part of a sentence, clause, or phrase. If removed it makes the sentence incomplete. It makes a sentence ungrammatical.
- Raju needs for his exam.
- Ramu eats after dinner.
- Seema reads in the morning.

Adjuncts

- An adjunct is an optional (structurally dispensable) part of a sentence, clause, or phrase. If removed it does not structurally affect the formation of a sentence.
 - Raju helped Ramu in the morning.
 - Raju helped in the morning after breakfast.

Complements and adjuncts in a phrase

- The king **of England**
- The king **of England** with his ministers
- The king with his ministers **of England**
- A student **of physics**
- A student **with long hair**
- A student **of physics with long hair**

Complement vs Adjuncts

- One complement in a phrase
- A maximum of two complements in one sentence.
- Many adjuncts are possible in a phrase or a sentence.