

The second type—the verbalization of an object—can be distinguished from instances which appear to be verbal collocations due to the high frequency of their co-occurrence. For example, the verb འཆལ་ has a high co-occurrence with the words ཚུལ་ཁྲིམས་ and ཤེས་རབ་ in the classical literature of Tibet. In terms of their grammar, however, the words ཚུལ་ཁྲིམས་ and ཤེས་རབ་ are actually the nominative subjects of the verb (“[His] ethics are faulty” and “[His] wisdom is deficient”). Consequently, these phrases do not constitute discrete verbal senses applicable to another subject but are complete sentences in their own right. Hence, neither can be considered true verbal collocations, and it should be clear, therefore, that high statistical co-occurrence cannot serve as a valid criterion for their identification.

The third type—a dual verb collocation—is an instance in which a single distinct meaning is entailed by the combination of two otherwise separate verbs. For example, འཕྱོག་བཤད་ from འཕྱོག་ and བཤད་, བཅན་སྦྱོང་ from བཅན་ and སྦྱོང་, or བརྟུལ་ཁྱུགས་ from བརྟུལ་ and ཁྱུགས་. It is to be distinguished from mere combinations (“doing X and Y” or “having done X, doing Y”) and infinite objects (“X-ing to do Y”). This former group is distinguished by both compositionality and substitutability and generally occurs with two verbs of the same class and the same requisite grammar. For example, a passage in Śāntideva’s *Engaging in Bodhisattva Deeds* reads (X.10cd):

བདག་གི་དགོ་བའི་སྟོབས་ཀྱིས་ལྷ་ཡི་ལུས་ཐོབ་ནས།  
ལྷ་མོ་རྣམས་དང་ལྷན་ཅིག་དལ་གྱིས་འབབ་གནས་ཤོག

where འབབ་གནས་ཤོག is taken as འབབ་ཅིང་གནས་པར་ཤོག or as འབབ་པ་ན་གནས་པར་ཤོག. The latter group occurs with several verbs but is exemplified by the Class III verb དཀའ་ which takes as its object a second verb in the infinitive, as in རྟོན་པར་དཀའ་ “difficult to find” and ཤེས་པར་དཀའ་ “difficult to know.” These are often abbreviated as རྟོན་དཀའ་ or ཤེས་དཀའ་. In general, the infinitive verb does not participate in determining the grammar of the sentence, though it may at times be accompanied by its own object or adverb.

Another illustration of this point can be seen in the sentence:

པཎ་ཆེན་ཉིད་ཀྱིས་བཤད་ཆད་འདི་རྣམས་ལ་གཅེས་པར་བྱངས་ཤིག

where one might be tempted to think that གཅེས་པར་བྱངས་ is a verbal collocation. In this sentence, we can see that the object of the verbal phrase is marked by an objective case particle (ལ་), indicating that the verb phrase would be a Class VI agentive-objective “verb.” However, we know that while གཅེས་ is a Class VI