## EMPOWER GRAMMATICAL BACKGROUND

## COMPLETE SENTENCES

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## A COMPLETE SENTENCE INCLUDES:

1. SUBJECT (NOUN)
2. VERB (MAY NEED A DIRECT OBJECT OR COMPLEMENT)
3. COMPLETE THOUGHT/IDEA

HE UNDERSTANDS THE NEW WORDS.

subject
verb
MARY, TONY, AND ANA STUDIED TOGETHER AFTER CLASS.


## Be careful!

Not all complete sentences have a stated subject.

The imperative form has YOU as the implied subject.

## SUBJECTS

## THE SUBJECT MAY BE

- A SINGLE NOUN
- A NOUN PHRASE
- A PRONOUN

College is challenging.
This program can help you succeed.
$\underline{I t}$ is open Monday through Friday.

- TWO OR MORE NOUNS, NOUN PHRASES OR PRONOUNS

Rose, Todd, Mary, and Jessie are all teachers there.

- A GERUND (VERB + -ING)

Online teaching is available for this course..

- AN INFINITIVE (TO + VERB) To err is human.
missing subjects or "dummy" it or there

For example:
In the morning is a good time to take classes.

- In the morning it is a good time to take classes.

In the next morning will be an eclipse of the sun.

- In the next morning there will be an eclipse of the sun.


## VERBS

Transitive verbs require a direct object or complement.
Intransitive verbs do not require a direct object or complement.

## DIRECT OBJECTS

A direct object is the noun that is receiving the action of the verb.

1. Some verbs must take an object
*We analyzed. We analyzed the data.
2. Some verbs may take an object.

It's correct with or without.
We wrote.
We wrote a letter.
3. Some verbs cannot take an object She disappeared. *She disappeared the cat.

## COMPLEMENTS

A COMPLEMENT IS A WORD OR WORDS THAT FOLLOW THE VERB BUT AREN'T DIRECT OBJECTS. DEPENDING ON THE VERB, SOME ARE OBLIGATORY.

## EXAMPLE 1: HE SEEMS.

HE SEEMS VERY SLEEPY.

EXAMPLE 2: HE WALKS.
THIS IS A COMPLETE SENTENCE. HOWEVER, WE CAN ADD A COMPLEMENT IF WE WANT TO BE MORE PRECISE.

The verb of a sentence must be complete or include all necessary verb parts. Often times students leave out part of the verb.

Example 1: She working in the lab.
She is working in the lab.

A sentence can consist of more than one verb.
However, parallel structure is important.
She works, studies, and is taking care of her children.
The three verbs are not the same form.
She works, studies, and takes care of her children.

