

科目：語言學短文評論 適用：外文系(語言學組)

編號：132

考生注意：

1. 依次序作答，只要標明題號，不必抄題。
2. 答案必須寫在答案卷上，否則不予計分。
3. 限用藍、黑色筆作答；試題須隨卷繳回。

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注意事項

- 一、禁止使用任何型式的字典。
- 二、答案必須寫在答案卷上；寫在本試題卷上不予計分。
- 三、本試題卷必須與答案卷一併繳回。

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Part One

The following essay was adapted from Thomas E. Payne's *Understanding English Grammar: A Linguistic Introduction*. Read it carefully before you proceed to **Part Two**.

Both Complementation and Modification are very general syntactic functions that may occur within any phrasal category. The essential difference between these functions is that Complements are **LICENSED** by their Heads, whereas Modifiers are not. The notion of licensing (sometimes called **SANCTIONING** or **GOVERNMENT**) is extremely useful in understanding and communicating important features of the grammar of any language. The idea is that certain phrasal categories "need" something in addition to the Head in order to express a complete meaning. The syntactic Head expresses the meaning incompletely in itself, and therefore requires (i.e., licenses) another element to complete it. This is what Complements do -- they "complete" the meaning of a phrase. Modifiers, on the other hand, may add interesting and important information, but are not licensed by their Heads. Rather, they simply enrich (i.e., fill in some details of) the idea being expressed. Modifiers aren't necessary for the expression of a complete idea. This conceptual distinction is summarized in the following statements:

- For meanings that license Complements:
COMPLETE IDEA = HEAD + COMPLEMENT
- For meanings that do not license Complements:
COMPLETE IDEA = HEAD
ENRICHED COMPLETE IDEA = HEAD + MODIFIER

For example, prepositions are very good examples of words that express partial ideas and therefore need Complements. Most prepositions express relational notions. A relation is not complete unless there are two things being related. Therefore a preposition cannot do its job if there is nothing that it relates to:

- (1) a. I depend on you fitly to provide for her.
b. Readers of the novel may come to different conclusions.

In example 1a, the prepositions *on* and *for* relate the pronouns *you* and *her* respectively to the rest of the clause. Even though the prepositions are the syntactic Heads of the prepositional phrases, they need a noun phrase (explicitly mentioned or strongly implied) in order for the relational notions they express to be complete. The pronouns *you* and *her* serve this "completing" function in this example, and are therefore the Complements of their prepositions. In example 1b, the determined noun phrase (DP) *different conclusions* must appear with the preposition *to* in order for the intended meaning to be expressed. Yes, the sentence is grammatical without *different conclusions*, but the meaning of the predicate is then quite different:

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- (2) Readers of the novel may come to (e.g., after having been rendered unconscious by severe boredom).

Prepositions are obvious examples of Heads of phrases that require Complements. Others include Inflectional elements in inflected verb phrases (examples in 3), Determiners in determined noun phrases (examples in 4), and genitive case markers in genitive phrases (example 5):

- (3) a. Today he phoned me just as I was getting into the bath.
 b. We were the young rebels.
 c. Marriage must be like that.
 d. They nodded, smiled affably and walked past.
- (4) a. This collection of articles sketches the complexity of the subject.
 b. Alkalinity is not a measure of how alkaline a solution is.
 c. So she took up their banner when she was Prime Minister.

- (5) Gretchen's salad spinner is broken.

The italicized portions of these sentences are clear and uncontroversial examples of Complements. They are not the syntactic Heads of their phrasal categories (underlined), but in each case, the phrase would be ungrammatical without them.

Verbs can have Complements or Modifiers, and for this reason it may sometimes be difficult to tell for sure whether a particular verb phrase constituent is one or the other. For example, consider the following:

- (6) a. The cat crept under the bed.
 b. The cat crept on her belly.

While the italicized portions of these sentences seem to fill the same role in each case, there is evidence that under the bed is a Complement in 6a, and on her belly is a Modifier in 6b. Consider these "inversion" constructions:

- (7) a. Under the bed crept the cat.
 b. ??On her belly crept the cat.

Complements can participate in such constructions, while Modifiers less easily so. The reason for this seems to be that Complements are more central to the idea being expressed than are Modifiers. In 6a, the main point the speaker is making is that the cat ended up under the bed, and "creeping" is just the way she got there. In 6b, on the other hand, the main point seems to be that the cat was creeping, and on her belly just describes the scene in a little more detail. While one may quibble with these intuitive judgments, the inversion facts provide concrete evidence that these two clause constituents have different syntactic functions.

Part Two

Write, in English, a review of the essay. In the review, do the following:

- (1) summarize the essay IN YOUR OWN WORDS (about 250); (50%)
- (2) state, in about 250 words, your opinions about the main ideas of the essay. (50%)