

Objective Complements

- 15j.** An **objective complement** is a word or word group that helps complete the meaning of a transitive verb by identifying or modifying the direct object.

An objective complement may be a noun, a pronoun, or an adjective. Only a few verbs can take an objective complement: *consider*, *make*, and verbs that can be replaced by *consider* or *make*, such as *appoint*, *call*, *choose*, *elect*, *keep*, *name*, *cut*, *paint*, and *sweep*.

- EXAMPLES** The judges called Jeremy the most promising **pianist** at the recital.
 We wanted Caroline as our representative, but they elected her **theirs**.
 Sweep the kitchen floor **clean** and keep it **shiny** with a light coat of wax.
 What beautiful **shades** of blue the students painted those posters!

EXERCISE A In each of the following sentences, decide whether each underlined word is an objective complement. If it is, write *OC* above the word. If it is not, find the objective complement and circle it.

Example 1. Ayita named her brother the sales manager.

- The manufacturers called their product the greatest invention since the toaster.
- My parents consider my sister and me dependable.
- The student council reelected Carlos president this year.
- After lunch, Deandra wiped the table and the countertops clean.
- The athletic committee named Kimama "Outstanding Athlete of the Year."
- How useless the electrical storm rendered our computers!
- Mr. Peterson considers Italian, French, or Latin excellent preparation for college.
- My brother appointed me official guardian and protector of his baseball card collection.
- The managing director appointed Ms. Latham assistant director.
- What a successful student her determination made her!

EXERCISE B Underline the objective complements in the sentences below.

Example 1. Would your grandfather declare this dish first-rate or top-notch?

- My grandfather called Julia's lasagna delicious.
- Granddad finds eating both necessary and pleasurable.
- His friends dubbed him "The Connoisseur" because he always makes some remark about his food.
- Granddad appointed my sister Julia tester and taster of his new recipes.
- How fulfilling and "filling" she considers the experience!