

## Direct and Indirect Objects and Objective Complements

- 15h.** A *direct object* is a noun, pronoun, or word group that tells who or what receives the action of the verb or that shows the result of the action.
- 15i.** An *indirect object* is a noun, pronoun, or word group that tells *to whom* or *to what* (or *for whom* or *for what*) the action of the verb is done.
- 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.

**EXERCISE A** In each of the following sentences, decide what type of complement the underlined word is. Above the word, write *DO* for *direct object*, *IO* for *indirect object*, or *OC* for *objective complement*.

**Example 1.** Sara could not explain her <sup>DO</sup>forgetfulness.

- By the turn of the century, how many apartments filled the island of Manhattan?
- The photographer gave us one of the pictures she had taken of the school.
- Sweep the chimney clean at least once a year and the firebox after each use.
- Please do not send any more of these samples unless someone requests them.
- Ms. Van Sterben deemed her faithful nurse worthy of a share of the fortune.
- Had she allowed herself and her staff any spare time for emergencies?
- What folly future historians may consider many twentieth-century “innovations”!
- In addition, this housing provides the immigrants few extras.
- The director and the cast discussed the first act but decided not to change it.
- Who would award an architect a prize for an undesirable structure?

**EXERCISE B** Identify each complement in the following sentences. Underline once each direct object, underline twice each indirect object, and circle each objective complement.

**Example 1.** The energetic child pushed the door open.

- Roberto took a huge bite out of the sandwich.
- Everyone congratulated Nancy on her award.
- Dad lent Wally his car for the evening.
- Jane always likes her vegetables well cooked.
- The mayor quickly issued the public a statement regarding his decision.