

## Sentence Pattern Four: Subject–Verb–Direct Object–Object Complement (S-V-DO-OC)

The next sentence pattern includes an object complement. In this pattern, the direct object is followed by a group of words that completes the object's meaning by renaming or describing it. In the following examples, the subject is in boldface, the verb is underlined once, the direct object is underlined twice, and the object complement is italicized.

Example:    **Research** on black history at the University of North Florida showcases the Eartha M. White papers, a unique *collection*.

Example:    The **collection** contains 1,000 items, a rich *treasure*.

Example:    The **memorabilia** includes many twentieth-century photographs *of African Americans*.

Example:    This **exhibit** shows other collections *to be inadequate in comparison*.

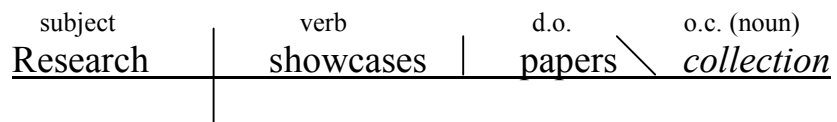
Adapted from: <http://www.unf.edu/library/per/eardes.htm>.

In these examples, the first two include an object complement that renames the object. For example, in the first example, the word *collection* renames

the direct object *papers*. In the second example, the word *treasure* is the object complement of the direct object *items*. In the third example, *photographs* is the direct object, and the object complement is the prepositional phrase *of African Americans*, which is used as an adjective. The last example includes the direct object *collections*, and the object complement is the infinitive phrase *to be inadequate in comparison*, which is used as an adjective. The subjects, verbs, direct objects, and object complements are diagrammed below:

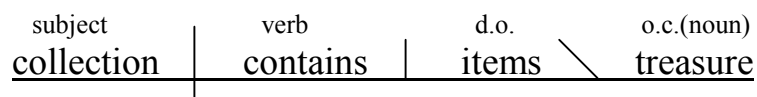
Example:    **Research** on black history at the University of North Florida showcases the Eartha M. White papers, a unique *collection*.

**Diagram:**



Example:    The **collection** contains 1,000 items, a rich *treasure*.

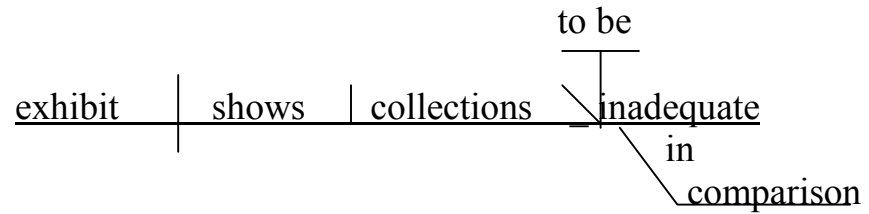
**Diagram:**



Example:    This **exhibit** shows other collections *to be inadequate in*

*comparison.*

**Diagram:**



(The infinitive phrase *to be inadequate in comparison* is used as an adjective in the above example.)

In the following exercise, you will identify and diagram the object complements.