

HOW COMPLEMENTS DIFFER FROM ADJUNCTS IN PERSIAN

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Complements and adjuncts are topics on which a lot of ink has been spilt. However, the border between the two is sometimes blurred in Persian, because the same syntactic categories can reflect both functions. The situation turns more critical in those Persian grammars that fail to present a true picture of the two concepts. This leaves scholars in a quandary when dealing with complements and adjuncts in Persian.

After presenting a syntactic and semantic account of Persian complements and adjuncts, this paper investigates the way in which the two concepts are distinguished in Persian. As the present research shows, at least six of the eight criteria proposed and used by Huddleston and Pullum (2002) for distinguishing between complements and adjuncts in English are applicable to Persian.

1. Introduction

'Complement' and 'adjunct' are two of the three significant syntactic functions of the clause structure. An overview of most important Persian syntactic studies shows that the majority of the accounts fail to present a real picture of the two concepts. In fact, there is a great deal of disagreement among Persian grammarians on the nature of complements and adjuncts. This disagreement has blurred their picture in Persian. In the literature, one can find a variety of views of complement held by different Persian grammarians. An overview of Persian syntactic works does not provide a reliable idea of the nature of Persian complements and adjuncts. Given this state of confusion in the literature, one is not expected to be able to make a distinction between the two concepts.

Huddleston and Pullum (2002:219) establish a clear-cut border between complements and adjuncts in English, by identifying the position of the two concepts relative to syntactic/semantic factors such

as *licensing, obligatoriness, anaphora, category, position, selection, argumenthood, and role*. The present paper aims at investigating the extent to which these factors are applicable to Persian in distinguishing the two concepts.

2. Literature review

The syntactic classes, PPs/AdvPs/NPs and NPs/AdjPs, are commonly used to reflect adjuncts and complements as two significant syntactic functions respectively.¹ Lambton (1961:61), however, recognizes neither 'adjunct' nor 'complement' as Persian functional categories, mainly because she does not recognize AdvPs, NPs, and AdjPs as formally distinct syntactic classes. Bateni (1969) recognizes four types of complement: direct object, predicative complement of object, predicative complement of subject (henceforth PC^o and PC^s respectively), and the non-verbal element of a compound verb. All these functions are expressed by NPs. For Bateni, any phrase beginning with a preposition is regarded as an AdvP which functions as an adjunct. He adds that NPs can also function as adjuncts. However, his account is not capable of making a distinction between complements and adjuncts, because, depending on the case, NPs can function either as complements or as adjuncts. For Lazard (1992), complement is a term covering adjunct and some common types of complement. Miremadi (1997) does not touch upon adjuncts, though one can see many examples of this concept throughout his book. Mahootian (1997) presents a nice classification of different syntactic categories such as NPs, PPs, and AvbPs. However, her functional account of these categories does not clarify what she means by complement. Neither does she recognize a concept such as adjunct.

Some scholars, including Meshkat-o-deeni (2000), interpret complement within a very narrow scope. According to him, it is a PP used with a transitive verb along with a direct object. However, as it will be shown in this paper, other categories such as NPs and clauses can

also function as complements. Vahidian-Kamyar and Omrani (2000) regard complement as an NP dominated by a preposition. They divide complements into: verbal complements, which are obligatory, and adverbial complements, which are optional. They propose a non-complement treatment for some types of complements, such as predicative complements of object/subject. In fact, they use labels other than complement for them.

Typical tokens of complement for Gholamalizadeh (2001) are PC^s and PC^o. According to him, besides NPs, PPs can also function as direct objects. Although he believes in the distinction between form and function, his dual use of 'adverb' as both a syntactic and a functional term confounds his analysis. He makes no distinction between complements and adjuncts of any kind. Mace (2003:48) uses the term 'complement' in a very restricted sense covering only the predicative complement of subject. Among other functions of the NP he just discusses direct object. As for 'adjunct' and the syntactic categories that play this role he mentions nothing.

Abumahbub (2004) makes a distinction between a direct object and what he calls complement. For him, complement is a PP which functions as an indirect object. Yet he uses such terms as 'adverbial complement' to refer to time, place, and manner expressions. Such a treatment hurts the distinction one must make between complements and adjuncts as two basically different categories.

3. Core/non-core complements and obliques

Complements are classified as core and non-core, which appear normally in the form of NPs and PPs respectively. In the following, *Payâm* and *nâme râ* are core complements while *be Maryam* is a non-core one:

	C:P	C:NP	C:PP	P:V
(1)	<i>Payâm</i>	<i>name râ</i>	<i>be Maryam</i>	<i>dâd-ø</i>
	Payam	letter comp	to Maryam	give.ps-3sg
	Payam gave the letter to Maryam			

Core complements function in the structure of the clause, so they are directly related to the verb; whereas non-core complements function in the structure of PPs, and, hence, are indirectly related to the verb. The NP *Maryam* which is governed by a preposition is traditionally referred to as 'oblique'. The preposition *be* 'to' in *be Maryam* identifies the semantic role of *Maryam* with regard to the verb. The deciding factor in the distinction between core complements and non-core ones is the syntactic category of the element in question, and not its position. Accordingly, *pul râ* in (2i) and *be Ali* in (2ii) reflect core and non-core complements respectively.

(2)i	<i>Payâm</i>	<i>pul</i>	<i>râ</i>	<i>be</i>	<i>Ali</i>	<i>dâd-ø</i>
	Payam	money comp	to	Ali	give.ps.3sg	
	Payam gave the money to Ali					
ii	<i>Payâm</i>	<i>be</i>	<i>Ali</i>	<i>pul</i>	<i>râ</i>	<i>dâd-ø</i>
	Payam	to	Ali	money comp	give.ps.3sg	
	Payam gave the money to Ali					

4. External and internal complements

Our theoretical framework regards the domain of complement as being vast enough to cover both the subject and non-subject elements. This is mainly so because the subject, object and other complements share significant features. Classically, the first division of the canonical clausal elements is between the subject and the predicate; the subject is an external complement. The rest of the complements are internal to the predicate. In (2i-ii), for instance, *Payam* is the subject and external to the VP; whereas *be Ali* and *pul râ* are internal to the VP.

Persian is one of the so-called pro-drop languages; in addition to the subject, the endings of the verb also indicate the person/number of the subject. So in non-canonical clauses the subject may be dropped.

5. *Complements and adjuncts*

Among all structural elements of the clause, complements are more central to the grammar than are other elements. As it will be argued, complements are syntactically different from adjuncts, and are closely related to the verb.

As a general rule, an NP, PP, or clause can reflect either an adjunct or a complement. Accordingly, one needs to distinguish between these syntactic classes in terms of the two functions. Using criteria proposed by Huddleston and Pullum (2002), we will discuss the ways in which complements and adjuncts are distinguished from each other.

(a) Licensing

The verb determines the permissible complements:

- (3)i *Rezâ xâne râ sâxt-ø*
 Reza house comp build.ps-3sg
 Reza built the house

But not:

- ii **Rezâ xâne râ ofâtâd-ø*
 Reza house comp fall.ps-3sg

Compare:

- (4)i *man to râ šekibâ mi-pendâr-am*
 I you comp patient impfv-consider.nps-1sg
 I consider you patient

But not:

- ii **man to râ šekibâ mi-ây-am*
 I you comp patient impfv-come.nps-1sg

In (3i), the verb *sâxt* licenses a direct object like *xâne râ*, but in (3ii), *oftâd-ø* does not. Again, in (4i), *mi-pendâr-am* permits a direct object + PC^o, but in (4ii), *mi-ây-am* does not. However, adjuncts such as *emruz* 'today', *zir-e miž* 'under the table', etc. are used with all types of verb.

The dependence between complements and the verbs used with them is reflected in the difference expressed by the technical term 'subcategorization'. Many verbs are subcategorized based on a certain complementation pattern. For example, verbs such as *raft-an* 'to go' and *xord-ân* 'to eat' are subcategorized as intransitive and mono-transitive respectively. Some verbs may follow more than one complementation pattern. Licensing is a complex matter, the details of which are beyond the scope of the present study. Some verbs, for example, take clausal complements rather than NPs; some take interrogative clauses as complements. Some others take a non-core complement and a clausal complement in a single construction. The preposition that governs the non-core complements is determined by the verb of the clause:

- (5) *Hasan matlab râ be Režâ goft-ø*
 Hasan matter comp to Reza say.ps-3sg
 Hasan told Reza the matter

Deleting the preposition *be* 'to' will result in ungrammaticality of the clause:

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- (6) **Hasan matlab râ Rezâ goft-ø*
 Hasan matter comp Reza say.ps-3sg

Replacing the preposition by another one will result either in shift of meaning or in ungrammaticality. Consider (7), and compare it to (8-9):

- (7) *Mehdi ketâb râ az man gereft-ø*
 Mehdi book comp from I take.ps.3sg
 Mehdi took the book from me

- (8) *Mehdi ketâb râ barây-e man gereft-ø*
 Mehdi book comp for-link I take.ps.3sg
 Mehdi got the book for me

But not:

- (9) **Mehdi ketâb râ be man gereft-ø*
 Mehdi book comp to I take.ps.3sg

In complex sentences, the type of the subordinate clause as a complement depends on the verb of the main clause. For example, the verb *porsid-an* 'to ask' licenses only an interrogative complement clause:

- (10) *Farid porsid-ø ke Hasan če goft-ø*
 Farid ask.ps-3sg that Hasan what say.ps-3sg
 Farid asked what Hasan said

But not:

- (11) **Farid porsid-ø ke Hasan bo-ro-ø xâne*
 Farid ask.ps-3sg that Hasan nin-go.nps-2sg home

Clauses can be used as either complements or adjuncts:

- (12) *man ne-mi-dân-am* *be-mân-am* *yâ*
 I neg-impfv-know.nps-1sg nin-stay.nps-1sg or
be-rav-am [complement]
 nin-go.nps-1sg
 I don't know whether I should stay here or leave
- (13) *xâne râ mi-xar-am* *be-mân-am* *yâ*
 house com impfv-buy.nps-1sg nin-stay.nps-1sg or
be-rav-am [adjunct]
 nin-go.nps-1sg
 I'll buy the house whether I stay here or leave

In (12), the subordinate clause *be-mân-am yâ be-rav-am* is a complement, because the choice of the verb of the main clause is restricted. For instance, *ne-midân-am* cannot be replaced by *ne-mibin-am* 'I don't see'. However, in (13), the subordinate clause is functioning as an adjunct, since the verb of the main clause can be freely replaced by so many different verbs.

(b) Obligatoriness

Complements are sometimes obligatory, whereas adjuncts are normally optional. Compare:

- (14)i *Hamid ketâb râ âvard-ø* ii. **Hamid âvard-ø* [oblig comp]
 Hamid book comp bring.ps-3sg Hamid bring.ps-3sg
 Hamid brought the book *Hamid brought
- (15)i *Ali farsi dars mi-dâd-ø* ii. *Ali dars mi-dâd-ø* [optl comp]
 Ali Farsi lesson impfv.give.ps-3sg Ali lesson impfv.give.ps-3sg
 Ali taught Farsi Ali taught

- (16) *Mehdi raft-ø (čun xaste bud-ø) [optl adjunct]*
 Mehdi go.ps-3sg (because tired be.ps-3sg)
 Mehdi left (because he was tired)

An element is obligatory when its omission results in ungrammaticality; for instance, (14ii) is ungrammatical because the obligatory complement (e.g. *ketâb râ*) is missing. Non-core complements and clausal complements may be obligatory. Consider (17) and (18), for example:

- (17) *In ketâb râ man be Hâdi dâd-am*
 this book comp I to Hadi give.ps-1sg
 I gave this book to Hadi

- (18) *In nešân mi-dah-ad ke šomâ ân šoql*
 This indicating impfv.give.nps-3sg that you that job
râ mi-pasand-id
 comp impfv.like.nps-2sg
 This indicates that you like that job

The main difference between obligatoriness and licensing is that with the latter the verb needs a complement, whereas with the former it is the verb that permits the presence of a complement.

How is an obligatory complement distinguished from an optional adjunct? Consider *až Ali* in (19):

- (19) *Hâdi až Ali taqdir kard-ø [obligatory complement]*
 Hadi from Ali thanking do.ps-3sg
 Hadi thanked Ali

Based on the fact that only certain verbs license *až Ali* and that dropping this PP from (19) makes it ungrammatical, one can claim that we here deal with an obligatory complement, rather than an optional adjunct. However, many verbs do not license the above PP:

- (20) **Hâdi az Ali did-ø*
 Hadi from Ali see.ps-3sg

Yet in the following, the same PP, *az Ali*, is considered an optional adjunct, because it is neither obligatory nor licensed by the verb:

- (21) *Hâdi xâne râ az Ali xarid-ø* [optional adjunct]
 Hadi house comp from Ali buy.ps-3sg
 Hadi bought the house from Ali

With a few verbs, manner dependents are obligatory. Obligatoriness is the most important factor in qualifying an element as a complement. Wherever such elements are optional, they would be treated as adjuncts. Consider *mohtaramâne* in (22) and compare with the same phrase in (23):

- (22) *Polis mohtaramâne raftâr kard-ø* [obligatory: complement]
 Police respectfully behaving do.ps-3sg
 The police behaved respectfully

- (23) *Polis mohtaramâne be porseš pâsox dâd-ø* [optional: adjunct]
 Police respectfully to question answer give.ps-3sg
 The police answered the question respectfully

(c) Anaphora (including ellipsis)

Common Persian anaphoric expressions are *ham hamintor* 'also the same way', *hamčenin* 'the same', and *hamin kêr kard-an* 'do the same job'. The interpretation of such expressions is derived from related antecedents. In the following, for example, *ham hamintor* is interpreted as *nâme nevešt-ø* (O + V):

- (24) *Ali nâme nevešt-ø va Rezâ ham hamintor*
 Ali letter write.ps-3sg and Reza too the-same-way
 Ali wrote letters and Rezâ did so, too

As a general rule, when two clauses with the same predicate combine into a coordinate construction, the predicate of the second clause is replaced by *ham hamintor*, whether it contains obligatory elements, optional elements, or both. Consider the following and compare with (24):

- (25) *Ali dar xâne name nevešt-ø va Rezâ ham hamintor*
 Ali in house letter write.ps-3sg and Reza too the-same-way
 Ali wrote letters at home and Rezâ did so, too

Suppose we have two clauses differing only in subjects and IOs; in combining the two in a single coordinated construction, similar elements appear only once, the different elements are totally restricted, and *ham hamintor* is not permitted:

- (26) *Zari bačče râ dar madrese gozâšt-ø vali Pari dar dânešgâ*
 Zari child comp in school put.ps-3sg but Pari in university
 Zari left the child at school, but Pari left it at the university

The same PP can be used either as an obligatory complement or as an adjunct (which is optional). Consider the PP *dar xâne*, where it functions as a complement in (27) and as an adjunct in (28). Yet, this important difference between the two functions is not reflected in Persian coordinate constructions:

- (27) *Ali râyâne râ dar xâne gozâšt-ø va Mehdi dar*
 Ali computer comp in home put.ps-3sg and Mehdi in
hotel [obligatory compl]
 hotel
 Ali left the computer at home and Mehdi left it at the hotel

- (28) *Ali dar xâne xâbid-ø va Mehdi dar hotel* [adjunct]
 Ali in house sleep.ps-3sg and Mehdi in hotel
 Ali slept at home and Ali (did so) in a hotel

These observations lead us to the conclusion that anaphoric expressions are not capable of distinguishing between complements and adjuncts in Persian.

(d) Syntactic category

The most common syntactic class reflecting complements is that of NP, while the most typical syntactic category representing adjuncts is an AdvP or a PP:

- | | | | | |
|------|---|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|
| | C:NP | C:NP | A:AdvP | A:PP |
| (29) | <i>ostâd</i> | <i>nokât râ</i> | <i>besyâr daqiq</i> | <i>dar kelâs</i> |
| | professor | points comp | much accurately | in class |
| | P: V | | | |
| | <i>šarh dâd-ø</i> | | | |
| | explaining give. ps-3sg | | | |
| | The professor explained the points very accurately in class | | | |

i. Noun phrases

Although NPs are most frequently used as complements, they can also reflect the role of adjuncts in expressing concepts such as manner or time. Consider *farad* and *intor* in (30) and (31) respectively:

- (30) *Ali farad be safar mi-rav-ad* [time]
 Ali tomorrow to trip impfv-reach.nps-3sg
 Ali will start a journey tomorrow

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- (31) *Tanâb râ intor be-bor-ø* [manner]
 rope comp this-way nin-cut.nps-2sg
 Cut the rope this way

The above NPs cannot be replaced by personal pronouns:

- (32) **Ali ân mi-ây-ad*
 Ali it impfv-come.nps-3sg
 *Ali will arrive it

- (33) **Tanâb râ in be-bor-ø*
 rope comp this nin-cut.nps-2sg
 *Cut the rope so

ii. Adverbial phrases

AdvPs are characteristically used to modify the verb. However, with a limited number of verbs like *raftâr kard-an* 'act' they function as complements (obligatory). Consider *xeili šojââne* in (34i) and compare it to the same phrase in (34ii):

- (34)i *Modir xeili šojââne raftâr kard-ø*
 [verb complement]
 principal very courageously behaving do.ps-3sg
 The principal behaved very courageously

- ii *Rezâ xeili šojââne pâsox dâd-ø* [adjunct]
 Reza very courageously replying give.ps-3sg
 Reza answered the question very courageously

iii. Prepositional phrases

A PP is a phrase with a preposition as its head. Each PP has normally an NP as its complement. PPs function as adjuncts or reflect non-core complements; compare the PP *bâ rezâyat* in (35) with the PP *až qeimat-e xodro* in (36):

(35) *Man pul râ bâ rezâyat pardâxt-am* [adjunct]
 I money comp with consent pay.ps-1sg
 I paid the money as agreed

(36) *šerkat až qeimat-e xodro kâst-o* [complement]
 company from price-link car reduce.ps-3sg
 The company reduced the price of the car

In (35), the PP is functioning as an adjunct, whereas in (36) the PP is reflecting an obligatory complement. Now, compare (36) with the following:

(37) *ketâb râ ruy-e miž gozâšt-am* [complement]
 book comp on-link put.ps-1sg
 I put the book on the table

While both *rui-e miž* and *až qeimat-e xodro* are obligatory complements, the preposition *až* in (36) is specified by the verb, whereas the preposition *rui* in (37) has a full lexical content.

iv. Subordinate clauses

Finite subordinate clauses usually appear as complements:

- (38) *Man mi-dân-am ke Ali mâšîn râ foruxt-ø* [complement]
 I impfv-know.nps-1sg that Ali car comp sell.ps-3sg
 I know that Ali sold the car

Such clauses can occasionally function as adjuncts:

- (39) *Ali ĉe kard-ø, ke to in-qadr xošhâl šod-i?* [adjunct]
 Ali what do.ps-3sg that you this-much happy become.ps-2sg
 What did Ali do that you became so happy?

Non-finite clauses are used as both complements and adjuncts. Consider *šab ketâb xând-an* in (39), *barây-e xošhâl kard-an-e ali* in (41), and *nâhâr xord-e* in (42):

- (40) *Šab ketâb xând-an râ dust dâr-am* [non-finite clause as complement]
 night book reading comp liking have.nps-1sg
 I like to read books at night
- (41) *Man barây-e xošhâl kard-an-e Ali be molâqâ-e u raft-am* [adjunct]
 I for-link happy do.ps-inftv-link Ali to visiting-link he go.ps-1sg
 I went to visit Ali to make him happy
- (42) *Rezâ nâhâr xord-e, be madrese raft-ø* [adjunct]
 Reza lunch eat.ps-ptcpl to school go.ps-3sg
 Having eaten lunch, Reza went to school

v. Adjectival phrases

AdjPs can be used both as adjuncts or complements. Consider *sarmast-e az piruzi* in the following pairs:

(43)i *Morabbi sarmast-e az piruzi bud*
 coach delighted-link from win be.ps.3sg
 The coach was delighted by the win

(44)ii *Morabbi, sarmast-e az piruzi, hame râ*
 coach delighted-link from win all comp
be jašn davit kard-ø
 to party inviting do.ps-3sg
 Delighted by the win, the coach invited all to the party

(e) Position

The default position of the basic elements of the clause in Persian is: C (S) + C (DO) + C (IO) + P. Consider the following example:

S	DO	IO	P
(45) <i>Hasan ketâb râ</i>	<i>be man</i>	<i>dâd-ø</i>	
Hasan book comp	to I	give.ps-3sg	
Hasan gave the book to me			

In standard Persian, adjuncts precede non-subject complements. The order of adjuncts is: time, location, and manner adjuncts. Consider the following example:

C	A	A	A	DO	ID	P
(46) <i>Hasan emruz dar kelâs be ârâmi ketâb râ</i>	<i>be man</i>	<i>dâd-ø</i>				
Hasan today in class with slowness	book comp	to I	give.ps-3sg			
Hasan gave me the book slowly in class today						

However, Persian word order is so flexible (especially in spoken language) that one may expect all of sixteen versions of a sentence like (47):

- (47) *Ali har ruz do sâat dar xâne ketâb mi-xân-ad*
 Ali everyday two hour in house book impfv-read.nps-3sg
 Ali reads books at home two hours everyday

(f) Argument

The propositional content of a clause is basically defined by a semantic predicate plus one or more arguments. The semantic predicate plays the most important role in conveying the hard core of meaning of the clause, while the arguments represent the entities involved. The semantic predicate prototypically corresponds to the syntactic predicator; the arguments correspond to complements rather than to adjuncts. In (46), for instance, *Hasan* and *ketâb* are arguments of *dâd-an*, the adjuncts *emruz*, *dar kelâs*, and *be ârâmi* are not.

There are exceptional cases where complements do not correspond to arguments. Consider the following example:

- (48) *In ke to ziyâd bâzi mi-kon-i ma-râ asabâni*
 this that you much playing impfv-do.nps-2sg I-comp angry
mi-kon-ad
 impfv-do.nps-3sg
 It makes me angry that you play a lot

In the above, *ke to ziyâd bâzi mi-kon-i* and *ma-râ* are arguments of *asabâni kard-an*, but *in* 'this' is not; it is a dummy pronoun filling the subject position. In fact, it plays no role in expressing the meaning of the clause.

In some constructions, the person/number ending of the verb which functions as a complement is a non-argument subject. In the following example, the person/number ending *-ad* syntactically represents the subject of the verb *be nazâr rasid-an*, but it makes no semantic contribution to the meaning of the construction:

- (49) *Be nazarmi-ras-ad* *dânešju-hâ dir be-ras-and*
to view impfv.reach.nps-3sg student-pl late nin-reach.nps-3sg
Students seem to arrive late

(g) Selection

Selection restrictions are applied to arguments which represent complements rather than adjuncts. Verbs like *xâbid-an* 'sleep' select an animate argument:

- (50) *Mehdi xâbid-ø*
Mehdi sleep.ps-3sg
Mehdi slept

- (51) **xâne xâbid-ø*
House sleep.ps-3sg
The house slept

(h) Role

The arguments which represent complements reflect different roles in the related context. These roles depend on the semantic properties of the verb:

- (52) *Iraj bačče râ zad-ø* [S: agent; O: patient]
Iraj child comp bite.ps-3sg
Iraj bit the child

- (53) *Man nân râ poxt-am* [S: agent; O: factitive]
I bread comp cook.ps-1sg
I made the bread

- (54) *Ostâd sedâ râ šenid-ø* [S: experiencer; O: stimulus]
 professor voice comp heard.ps-3sg
 The professor heard the voice

In the first example, we deal with a situation where a dog called *Iraj* does something to a child. In the second instance, the case is quite different, because here the agent produces something which does not exist prior to the performance. This means there is no patient in the situation. This object is referred to as factitive, which indicates something is created by the agent. In the third, (54), neither an agent nor a patient is engaged. Here, the professor does nothing to the voice. In fact, he just perceives something which is technically referred to as 'stimulus'. The roles of complements are clearly different from functions embodied in prototypical adjuncts.

6. Conclusion

The present paper draws, for the first time, a clear-cut border between Persian complements and adjuncts. Six of the eight factors proposed by Huddleston and Pullum (2002) are applicable to Persian in distinguishing the two functions. While the verb permits the complement, the adjunct occurs almost freely with any verb. Complements are sometimes obligatory whereas adjuncts are always optional. These two points indicate that complements are more closely related to the verb than are adjuncts. The most basic order of the elements of the clause is the one where adjuncts precede non-subject complements. Selectional restriction applies to complements rather than to adjuncts. Arguments and semantic roles such as agent, patient, etc. also correspond to complements rather than to adjuncts.

Anaphoric expressions exhibit the same behavior towards the two functions, such that they are not capable of making any distinction between the functions. Table 1 indicates how the eight factors treat towards complements and adjuncts in Persian.

	Licens- ing	Obli- gatory	Anaphora	Cate- gory	Position	Argument	Selection	Role
Comple- ment	relevant	Some- times	no distinction	Mostly NPs & PPs	non-subjects follow adjuncts	relevant	relevant	relevant
Adjunct	not relevant	Never	no distinction	Mostly PPs & AdvPs & NPs	precedes non-subject complements	not relevant	not relevant	not relevant

Table 1: *Treatment of the eight factors with respect to complements and adjuncts*

Core complements are most commonly represented by NPs which function in the structure of the clause, whereas a non-core complement is always reflected by an NP dominated by a preposition, and hence, is syntactically indirectly related to the verb. The preposition identifies the semantic role of the non-core complement with regard to the verb. Clauses can also represent both types of complement in Persian. Other syntactic categories which can reflect core-complements are AdjPs and AdvPs.

Adjuncts are frequently reflected by PPs, AdvPs, and NPs. However, AdvPs, AdjPs, and clauses can also show this function. Table 2 illustrates how frequent syntactic categories are used in expressing complements and adjuncts.

Function/frequency of occurrence	NP	PP	AdvP	AdjP	Clause
Core-complement	Most often	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Sometimes
Non-core complement	Never	Always	Never	Never	Never
Adjunct	Often	Often	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes

Table 2: *The frequency of syntactic categories in reflecting complements and adjuncts*

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Note

1. According to our theoretical framework, 'complement' is a super-ordinate term covering a number of syntactic functions, including a direct object, an indirect object, a predicative complement of subject, a predicative complement of object, etc.

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Symbols and notational conventions

1. In the Persian examples, the first line of each example represents the transcribed form of the Persian sentence. In the second line (the gloss line), two types of components are represented: lexical items, and grammatical items. A hyphen separates two components of a single word. A full stop indicates that the components do not correspond to distinct Persian segmental units: two items separated by a full stop thus corresponds to a single item in the Persian citation. The symbols used to gloss grammatical items are as follows:

comp	=	complement marker
impfv	=	imperfective marker
inftv	=	infinitive
link	=	linker
neg	=	negative marker
nin	=	non-indicative marker
nps	=	non-past marker
pl	=	plural marker
ptcpl	=	past participle
ps	=	past marker
sg	=	singular

2. The following abbreviations are used for different syntactic classes, functions and categories:

P	=	predicator
A	=	adjunct
AdjP	=	adjective phrase
AdvP	=	adverbial phrase
C	=	complement
DO	=	direct object
IO	=	indirect object
PCo	=	predicative complement of object
PCs	=	predicative complement of subject
PP	=	prepositional phrase
NP	=	noun phrase
O	=	object

HOW COMPLEMENTS DIFFER FROM ADJUNCTS IN PERSIAN

S = subject

VP = verb phrase