

E-ISSN: 2709-9369

P-ISSN: 2709-9350

[www.multisubjectjournal.com](http://www.multisubjectjournal.com)

IJMT 2024; 6(3): 41-44

Received: 11-01-2024

Accepted: 19-02-2024

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## The absolute object and the rule of deleting its verb

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### Abstract

The absolute object is a derived form from the verbal noun indicating an event without being restricted to a specific tense. It is considered an optional element in the sentence, meaning it can be omitted without affecting the sentence's meaning. The absolute object is significant in Arabic language as it falls under the category of "mansubat" (Accusatives), and since accusatives are numerous, it's crucial to study the subject in all its forms and types to distinguish it from other accusatives. Understanding its usefulness in the sentence, how its presence expands the meaning, and adds additional meanings beyond the original one according to its classifications, such as emphasizing, indicating the type of verb, or specifying the number of times the action occurs, is important.

**Keywords:** Absolute object, verbal noun, event indication

### Introduction

The absolute object is considered optional, not obligatory, in its category. Some may perceive it as less important compared to other grammatical elements, especially considering the abundance of accusatives in Arabic grammar, such as the direct object, the indirect object, adverbial accusatives, and so forth. However, this is not accurate because the absolute object is indeed significant in the language and its importance is not lesser than other accusatives.

Since the absolute object is derived from a verb, it adds numerous and diverse meanings to the sentence concerning the event it indicates. This event expands in meaning depending on whether it emphasizes, specifies the type of verb, or indicates the frequency of the action.

Several factors contribute to the construction of the absolute object. It can either involve a fully conjugated verb or the absolute object can act as a noun or an adjective describing the doer of the action. If any of these factors are present in the sentence, the absolute object serves to emphasize the verb, specify its type, or indicate its frequency.

Sometimes, the factor associated with the absolute object can be omitted, either as a necessity or as an option, particularly when the absolute object specifies the type or frequency of the action. However, the omission is not permissible if the absolute object serves to emphasize the verb.

Various expressions can substitute for the absolute object. These substitutes add nuances to the sentence that the absolute object alone cannot provide. One of the main reasons for substitution is to broaden the meaning of the sentence.

### The Absolute Object and the Rule of Omitting its Verb

The absolute object is a verbal noun mentioned after a verb either to emphasize its meaning, specify its quantity, indicate its type, or as a replacement for pronouncing the verb itself. Examples include: "And Allah spoke to Moses directly," "I stood for two stances," and "I walked like wise men walk."

The absolute object is named as such because it is unrestricted, unlike other objects which are constrained by prepositions. For instance, the direct object is constrained by the preposition "bi," the indirect object by "fi," and the object complement by "bi-lam."

Moreover, it is absolute in terms of time, meaning it is not bound by tense.

The absolute object is an emphasized verbal noun. The confirmed verbal noun, which maintains the meaning of the verb without addition or subtraction, is called the ambiguous verbal noun because it serves merely for emphasis, such as "I stood standing." Similarly, the verbal noun used instead of the verb is also called the ambiguous verbal noun, like "believing, not disbelieving," meaning "believe and do not disbelieve."

The ambiguous verbal noun cannot be dual or plural because the confirmed verbal noun is equivalent to repeating the action, and replacing the verb with its noun is like the verb itself.

As for the verbal noun indicating type and quantity, it is called the specialized verbal noun because it adds to the verb, such as "I prostrated twice, walked as the wise men walk."

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The specialized verbal noun can be dual or plural based on context, such as "I prostrated two prostrations" or "prostrations."

Regarding the verbal noun indicating type, it can be dual or plural according to what is heard from it, like "I stood two types of standing," indicating type rather than frequency.

### Another classification of the verbal noun is

1. **Active:** It can be accusative to the verbal noun, meaning it functions as the absolute object, or it can move to other positions in the sentence, allowing for it to function as the subject, the object, the predicate, or other roles. This category includes most verbal nouns.
2. **Non-Active:** It must be accusative to the verbal noun, always functioning as an absolute object, such as "Subhan, Ma'adh, Labbayk, Sa'dik, Hananiyk, Duwaylik, Hazariyk."

The rule of omitting the verb of the absolute object varies depending on the types of confirmed absolute objects, whether they indicate the type of the verb or the number of times the action occurs. The rule of omission can be either prohibited, obligatory, or permissible based on certain conditions and contexts.

#### 1. Prohibited

Omitting the verb of the absolute object is prohibited when it is confirmed for its action. This is because the purpose of the absolute object in this type is for emphasis and strengthening the meaning, so omitting its verb is not permissible.

#### 2. Obligatory or Permissible

And the verb of the absolute object can be omitted if its meaning is implied in the context of the sentence or if it can be inferred mentally, and it is omitted for the sake of brevity, such as.

#### If the absolute object indicates the type or the number of times the action occurred, for example

- "The mother stayed awake over her child." This sentence is an answer to the question: "Which staying awake did she do?" ("The mother stayed awake") is the absolute object indicating the type.
- "Twice." This sentence is an answer to the question: "How many times did they strike?" ("Twice") is the absolute object indicating the number of times the action occurred.

#### If the situation suggests the intended purpose, such as

- "A successful pilgrimage." (meaning "I performed a successful pilgrimage.")
- "A grateful effort." (meaning "I made a grateful effort.")

#### 3. Obligatory

The verb of the absolute object is omitted obligatorily if its meaning is also implied in the context of the sentence or if it can be inferred mentally, and it is omitted for the sake of brevity in the following situations:

- a) If the absolute object is preceded by an interrogative, reproachful interrogative, command, prohibition, or supplication, such as.
  - "Sitting while you're at work," for someone asking and inferring ("Are you sitting while you're at work?").

- "Disobedience to your Lord," for someone reproaching and inferring ("Are you disobeying your Lord?").
- "Benefit for the students," for someone commanding and inferring ("Benefit the students").
- "Do not sit idly," for someone prohibiting and inferring ("Do not sit idly").
- "May Allah provide you with drink and pleasantness," for someone supplicating and inferring ("May Allah provide you with drink and pleasantness").

b) If the absolute object is in response to "either/or" detailing conditionality for the sake of specification or conclusion, such as.

- "Either as a gift or as redemption," (meaning "You either desire it as a gift or as redemption").

c) If the absolute object is repeated, serving as a substitute for the emphasis required by the absolute object, and its condition is that it is preceded by a subject, such as.

- "You walk leisurely," (meaning "You walk leisurely, leisurely").

d) If the absolute object is confined, such as.

#### 1. Negation and Exception

"You are nothing but walking," (meaning "You are nothing but walking").

#### 2. Restriction with

"Indeed, you are only walking," (meaning "Indeed, you are only walking").

#### Oral Sources

These are sentences and phrases that have reached us from the Arabs, in which the verb of the absolute object is omitted either due to frequent use or due to their association with higher concepts, such as.

- "Welcome," (meaning "You are welcomed and descended well").
- "Hearing and obedience," (meaning "I hear you and obey you").
- "Glory be to Allah," (meaning "I glorify Allah").

#### Also, there are other sources from the sayings of the Arabs that follow the same rule

"Here I am at your service and pleased with you," (meaning "Compliance after compliance and delight after delight"). "Here I am" can be used alone, but "pleased with you" must be accompanied by "Here I am."

- "I seek refuge in you," (meaning "I seek refuge with you repeatedly").
- "I take care of you," (meaning "I take care of you continually").
- "I warn you," (meaning "I warn you repeatedly").

#### Additionally, there are words that carry certainty for oneself and for others, provided that the sentence itself is the source, such as

"Truly," "Certainly," "Honestly," "Undoubtedly," "Indeed," "Certainly," "Recognition," and soon. For example.

"I owe him a thousand recognitions," (meaning "I acknowledge profusely"). The sentence before it ("I owe him a thousand") equals in meaning ("acknowledgment"). This sentence is confirmed for itself. As for the confirmation for others, it comes confirmed for the

preceding sentence, whether it can be interpreted for it or for others, meaning it equals it or not in meaning. The benefit of the absolute object here is that it specifies the intended meaning and eliminates the possibility of others' interpretation, such as.

"You are truly my son," means "You are my son indeed." The word "truly" in this sentence can have two possibilities.

1. It is a literal meaning, meaning he is truly his son, i.e., biologically related.
2. It is a figurative meaning, meaning "you are like my son in affection."

Mentioning the absolute object here raises the listener's assumption that he is truly his son, while allowing for the interpretation that he could be like a son in a figurative sense.

Finally, the absolute object can come for comparison, provided that the sentence before it contains the subject of the absolute object. This includes cases where the absolute object is used therapeutically for comparison after a sentence containing a noun with its meaning and its possessor, such as.

"For Zaid, there is weeping like the weeping of the bereaved," means "He weeps like the bereaved." The subject in meaning is "Zaid's weeping." If the sentence does not include an explicit subject in meaning, the verbal noun must be raised, so we say, "For Zaid, there is weeping like the weeping of the bereaved," and it should not be assumed to be an absolute object.

k) If the absolute object of a verb is intended to denote news, such as.

"Do (it) and be honored," (Meaning "I honor you"), with the verb in present tense for the speaker.

**Note:** If the absolute object is an interrogative or conditional noun (such as "which" or "how many"), in this case, it must precede the verb, like.

"What sincerity have you shown, how many times have you succeeded, I will reward you."

**Note:** The absolute object may precede its verb without conditions, like.

"Seeing with my own eyes, I saw the thief being whipped."

### What substitutes for the absolute object

One of the main reasons we resort to using substitutes for the verbal noun is to expand the meaning. Sometimes, the verbal noun itself may not convey the intended meaning, which the substitute can. For example, when using an adjective instead of the verbal noun itself, it may carry a new meaning not conveyed by the verbal noun. For instance, in the Quranic verse "And remember your Lord abundantly," the word "abundantly" substitutes for the verbal noun "remember," which could imply two meanings: abundant remembrance and frequent remembrance. However, when using the verbal noun of the verb, it may only imply abundant remembrance.

### Substitutes for the absolute object are used in the following cases

1. If it is from its wording and it is not adjacent to it, such as when Allah says, "He caused you to grow from the earth vegetation," where "vegetation" is not the verbal noun of "caused to grow" - the verbal noun is "growth" - but a similar verbal noun is used.

2. If the verbal noun appears in the sentence in the genitive position, both in its complete and incomplete forms, such as in "So do not incline completely," where blame is implied.
3. If the absolute object is synonymous with the verb, such as "I sat down sitting," "I ran running," "I rejoiced rejoicing," "I walked walking."
4. If the genitive construction to a demonstrative noun is a verbal noun from the same verb in the sentence, such as "I exerted that exertion," "I showed that sincerity."
5. If the verbal noun indicating the number is from the same verb in the sentence, such as "So lash them with eighty lashes."
6. If a noun occupies the place of the absolute object, such as when they say, "Zaid struck with a whip," meaning Zaid struck a whip blow.
7. If the interrogative, perfective, or conditional particle (ay) is followed by a verbal noun from the same verb that comes after it, such as "Which turning do they turn to?" "What joy did I feel?" "What walking do you walk that would redeem you?"
8. If the interrogative (ma) or the conditional (mahma) indicates an event, such as "No sleeping brings you rest, no rejoicing benefits you."
9. If a pronoun referring to the absolute object appears in the sentence, such as "So how can I punish him when I do not punish anyone from the worlds?"
10. If the adjective of the absolute object is omitted, such as "I screamed loudly," meaning "I screamed a loud scream."
11. What indicates the type of verbal noun, such as "He sat squatting," "He walked bow-legged."
12. If the verbal noun substitutes for a repeated action verb, such as "The rain poured down heavily, and it pours heavily," meaning "it pours heavily."

### Conclusion

**At the end of the article and after studying the various aspects of the topic, we can conclude the following**

1. The absolute object is a derived noun from the verb.
2. The absolute object is an accessory, not a principal in its category.
3. The fact that the absolute object is an accessory in the sentence does not mean that it can be dispensed with. Its presence in the sentence adds many meanings that cannot be overlooked.
4. The absolute object serves three purposes: to emphasize the action, to indicate the type of action, or to specify the number of times the action occurs.
5. The deletion of the agent of the absolute object is obligatory or permissible if it indicates the type of action or specifies the number of times the action occurs. However, deleting the agent is not allowed if it is for the emphasis of the action.
6. Words can substitute for the absolute object and play a significant role in expanding the meaning, which the absolute object itself may not achieve.

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