

up in ditransitive verbal complements

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$V_2 + up$

$V_2 + up$ idioms have telic (perfect) implications

- clean / clean up
- cheer / cheer up
- fix / fix up
- hang / hang up
- mess / mess up

I am only concerned with idiomatic *up* here

Ditransitive verbs

Ditransitive verbs V_3 have subject, direct object, and indirect object

“I give you the ball”

give₃(I, you, the ball)

I will consider S V O IO to be ‘basic’ form, where IO is complement

1. When V is ditransitive, “V *up*” means V with an inferred direct object. The indirect object can also be inferred.

I give sb. sth. I give up sth. I give up.

2. In conversation, this is used to highlight the IO or S.

DO > IO > S

I give sb. sth. I give up sth. I give up.

give up sth. (implicit DO)

I gave up **my seat** = I gave (to DO) **my seat**

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I gave up **my seat** = I gave (to the old lady) **my seat**

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Claim: DO is implied from context

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Claim: DO is often impersonal

I gave up **smoking** = I gave (**the habit of**) **smoking**

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From the perspective give is a conceptual primitive denoting set inclusion → exclusion...

A bridging context

“When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.”

King James Bible (C.E. 1604)

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give up with implicit DO

1. his ghost moved up towards heaven
2. up as ellipsis of DO

give up (implicit DO, IO)

I give up = I give (to DO) (IO)

- Giving *anything* to *anyone*
- Consistent with defeat

Similarly:

They'll pay up = They'll pay (to DO) (the money)

I owe up = I owe (to DO) (my mistakes)

more examples (implicit DO)

BRING UP = BRING

“You brought up the offer” = “You brought (to DO) the offer”

PASS UP = PASS

“I will pass up the offer” = “I will pass (to DO) the offer”

OFFER UP = OFFER

“I offered up my car” = “I offered (to DO) my car”

exceptions

1. **Give up / Give:** I gave up my seat / I gave her my seat
2. **Send up / Send:** I sent up flowers / I sent her flowers
3. **Bring up / Bring:** I brought up the offer / I brought to O's attention the offer
4. **Offer up / Offer:** I offered up my car / I offered them my car
5. **Lend up / Lend:** I lent up my car / I lent them my car
6. **Hand up / Hand:** I handed up the keys / I handed them the keys
7. **Pass up / Pass:** I passed up the salt / I passed them the salt
8. **Pay up / Pay:** I paid up / I paid them , I paid up the bill / I paid them the bill.
9. **Offer up / Offer:** I offer up the car / I offer them the car
10. **Bring up / Bring:** I brought up the offer / I brought them the offer
11. **Owe up / Owe:** I owed up / I owed them my mistakes

13. **Build up / Build:** I built up a fortune / I built them a fortune
14. **Cook up / Cook:** I cooked up lunch / I cooked them lunch
15. **Buy up / Buy:** I bought up the crates / I bought them the crates.
16. **Throw up / Throw:** I throw up my lunch / I throw them my lunch
17. **Show up / Show:** I show up there / I show () there
18. **Write up / Write:** I wrote up a paper / I wrote them a paper

20. **Tell up / Tell:** unattested
21. **Teach up / Teach:** unattested
22. **Promise up / Promise:** unattested
23. **Get up / Get (for sb.) :** unattested
24. **Sing up / Sing:** unattested
25. **Feed up / Feed:** unattested
26. **Leave up / Leave:** unattested

di V + up dominates

I give them sth.
I bring them sth.
I offer them sth.
I hand them sth.

implicit DO OK, implicit IO marginal

I built them sth.	I built sth.	?I built them
I cooked them sth.	I cooked sth.	?I cooked them
I bought them sth.	I bought sth.	?I bought them
I showed them sth.	I showed sth.	? I showed them

implicit DO, implicit IO OK

I told them sth.	I told sth.	I told them
I taught them sth.	I taught sth.	I taught them
I promised them sth.	I promised sth.	I promised them
I fed them sth.	I fed sth.	I fed them
I left them sth.	I left sth.	I left them

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If the ditransitive use of V dominates, diV + up likely to exist

I give them sth.

I bring them sth.

I offer them sth.

I hand them sth.

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If the ditransitive use of V dominates, diV + up likely to exist

I give them sth.

I bring them sth.

I offer them sth.

I hand them sth.

If the regular use of V dominates, diV + up won't exist

I built them sth.

I built sth.

?I built them

I cooked them sth.

I cooked sth.

?I cooked them

I bought them sth.

I bought sth.

?I bought them

I showed them sth.

I showed sth.

? I showed them

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I cooked them sth.

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I bought them sth.

I bought sth.

?I bought them

I showed them sth.

I showed sth.

? I showed them

Conclusion

$V_3 + up + \text{complement}$ means V_3 , but focus on IO

$V_3 + up$ means V_3 , but focus on S

pure ditransitives (give, bring, pass) show this best

“give up the ghost” is a possible bridging context