

Suppletion

COURSE INSTRUCTOR: ETHAR N. JAMEEL

UNIVERSITY OF BASRA

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION FOR H. SCS.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

WHAT IS SUPPLETION?

- **Suppletion** is defined as a total change in the form or forms within a paradigm. The new form is called a **suppletive form**.



EXAMPLES OF SUPPLETION IN THE VERB PARADIGM

- The two verbs (go and be) have suppletive forms:

The stem	3 rd person singular	Present participle	Past form	Past participle form
go	goes	going	went	gone
Be	Is/am/are	being	Was/were	been

- The past form of (go) which is (went) is a suppletive form. In addition, (is, are, am, was, were) are all suppletive forms. All these verbs are totally different from the stem.



NOTE / some words might belong to more than one part of speech like a verb and a noun. In order to know which part of speech the word belongs to, it's better to have it in context.

• 1- **Melt** some butter in your frying pan.

• 2- All the family were ready for the spring **melt**.

The stem	3 rd person singular	Present participle	Past form	Past participle form
melt	melts	melting	melted	melted

The stem	Plural form	Singular possessive	Plural possessive
melt	melts	-----	-----

