The problem of completing a partial nxn latin square is a list coloring problem in which the graph is the Cartesian product of two n-cliques and the lists are determined in an obvious way by the filled-in cells. Hall’s condition is a fairly well known necessary condition on a graph with a list assignment for the existence of a proper coloring. Matt Cropper some years ago asked whether Hall’s condition is sufficient for the completion of a partial latin square. We show that the answer is “yes” when the filled-in cells form a subrectangle, or a subrectangle minus one cell. In the former case, Hall's condition implies Ryser's condition.

Key words and phrases: partial latin square, Hall's condition, Ryser's condition, list coloring.