

ENGLISH VERB

**A) a clause / sentence element
(= verb phrase)**

B) a word class

ENGLISH VERB

- = a word or phrase that describes an action, condition or experience
- = one of the clause elements like S (subject), O (object), C (complement), A (adverbial)
- = a member of a word class like a noun or an adjective

VERB PHRASE

- consists of one or more verbs, *eg. travel, am travelling, have been travelling, travelled, might be travelling, can travel, ...*
- functions as the verb in a clause

CATEGORIES OF VERB

- 1. Intransitive** verbs (no obligatory element)
 - 2. Transitive** verbs (require object)
 - 3. Copular** verbs or copulas (do not require object, but only adverbial or complement)
- ✓ *Please, see your notes on clause types and verb classes from the first seminar.*

CATEGORIES OF VERB

1) full verbs

2) primary verbs

3) modal auxiliary verbs = modals

→ verb as a **WORD CLASS**

✓ the OPEN class of FULL = LEXICAL verbs

✓ CLOSED classes of PRIMARY verbs and MODAL AUXILIARY verbs

Examples, please.

CATEGORIES OF VERB

- **full verbs**

most verbs in English, e.g. *go sit, speak, read, watch, like, sip, grin,...*

- **primary verbs**

be, have, do

- **modal auxiliary verbs = modals**

can-could, may-might, must, shall-should, will-would

CATEGORIES OF VERB

1) main verbs

2) auxiliaries

- ✓ If there is only one verb in the verb phrase, it is the MAIN verb.
- ✓ If there are more than one verb in the verb phrase, the final one is the MAIN verb and the one or more verbs that come before it are AUXILIARY verbs.

CATEGORIES OF VERB

1) main verbs

2) auxiliaries

Example: *She might be leaving soon.*

- ✓ *might be leaving* = verb phrase
- ✓ *might + be* = auxiliaries
- ✓ *leaving* = main verb

CATEGORIES OF VERB

1) main verbs

2) auxiliaries

- ✓ FULL verbs can act only as MAIN verbs
- ✓ MODAL AUXILIARIES can act only as AUXILIARIES
- ✓ PRIMARY verbs can act either as MAIN verbs or as AUXILIARIES.

CATEGORIES OF VERB

- **regular verbs**
- **irregular verbs**

Morphological verb forms

- **Regular full verb:**

- 1) base form = dictionary entry form (uninflected)
- 2) -s form = 3rd person singular presents
- 3) -ing form = -ing participle = present participle, active participle, gerund
- 4) -ed form = past simple, past participle, passive participle

Morphological verb forms

- **Regular full verb:**

*Provide an example in all forms,
please.*

Morphological verb forms

- **Regular full verb:**

- 1) base form = dictionary entry form (uninflected)
CALL
- 2) -s form = 3rd person singular presents **CALLS**
- 3) -ing form = -ing participle = present participle, active participle, gerund **CALLING**
- 4) -ed form = past simple, past participle, passive participle **CALLED**

✓ *Do not forget to study spelling rules and exceptions of regular verbs for the credit test !!!*

Morphological verb forms

- **Irregular verbs** have a different number of verb forms.

Provide some examples, please. How many forms do they have? More or less than regular verbs?

Morphological verb forms

- **Irregular verbs** have a different number of verb forms.
 - **cut** – 3 – cut, cuts, cutting
 - **speak** – 5 – speak, speaks, speaking, spoke, spoken
 - **be** – 8 – be, am, is, are, being, was, were, been
- ✓ *Do not forget to study the irregular verb forms for the credit test as you will certainly need them!!!*

Finite and non-finite verb forms

- **Finite:** S-V concord = S-V agreement

Which forms of English verbs are finite?

- **Non-finite** = not finite

Which forms of English verbs are non-finite?

- **Base form**

Is base form finite or infinite? Provide examples.

Finite and non-finite verb forms

- **Finite:** S-V concord = S-V agreement
 1. *-s form*
 2. *-ed form in the past tense*
- **Non-finite** = not finite
 1. *-ed participle (perfect, passive, participle clause)*
 2. *-ing participle (continuous, participle clause)*
 3. *infinitive*
- **Base form**

Sometimes finite, sometimes not.

Finite and non-finite verb forms

- *Provide examples of participle clauses, please (both with -ed participle and with -ing participle).*
- *Which uses of base form are finite and which are non-finite?*

Finite and non-finite verb forms

- **Participle clauses:**

e.g. *Seen from the distance, it looked lovely.*
Seeing him I said hello.

- **Base form**

1. bare infinitive (without “to”): **NF**

2. to – infinitive: **NF**

3. present tense (except 3rd person sg.): **F** (*I often go there.*)

4. imperative: **F** (*Go there!*)

5. subjunctive: **F** (*They suggest that she go there.*)

Verb forms X verb phrases

- **verb forms** = single verbs within a verb phrase
- **verb phrase** = consisting of either a single verb form or a group of verb forms
- ✓ the verb forms have various functions (either finite or non-finite) in verb phrases
- ✓ if the first verb form or the only verb form within a verb phrase is a finite verb, then the whole verb phrase is FINITE; the rest of the verb forms are non-finite even within the finite verb phrase
- ✓ in a NON-FINITE verb phrase all verb forms (= verbs) are non-finite

Please, provide examples of (non-)finite VPs.

Finite and non-finite verb phrases

- Finite:

She has been learning English for five years now.

- Non-finite:

***Having been called** early, he felt tired all day.*

***Called** early, he ate a quick breakfast.*

Finite and non-finite verb phrases

- **FINITE** verb form/verb phrase
 - has **tense contrast**
 - has **person concord** and **number concord**
 - has **mood** (indicative, imperative, subjunctive)
- **NON-FINITE** verb form/verb phrase
 - a verb form/phrase which is not finite: infinitives, participles

Tense and aspect system in English

- **TENSE** = grammatical category realized by **verb inflection**.
- Since there is no verb inflection for future time, the threefold semantic opposition (present, past, future) is reduced to two tenses: the **present tense** and the **past tense**, both typically referring to present and past time respectively.
- **Future** meaning is expressed by various means, including, for instance the present tense. (Tomorrow is Saturday.)

Tense and aspect system in English

- **ASPECT** = grammatical category reflecting the way in which the action of a verb is viewed with respect to time;
- the form of a verb which shows how the meaning of a verb is considered in relation to time, typically expressing whether an action is **complete**, **habitual** or **continuous**.
- English is often considered to have two aspects: the **PROGRESSIVE** (*I am/was speaking to John*), which stresses action in progress or incomplete action; and the **PERFECT** (*I have spoken to John*), which stresses completed action.

Tense and aspect system in English

- Over the years, the distinction between tense and aspect has become blurred. Thus, English has been said to have 12 “tenses”.
- The two aspects may combine in a complex verb phrase and are marked for present or past tenses (and possibly future time), we can also add “simple” (sometimes called “zero”) aspect.
- The traditional 12 “tenses” are in fact 12 combinations of tense and aspect. They are named by combining a tense with an aspect or aspects.

Tense and aspect system in English

ASPECT:	simple -	progressive be + -ing	perfect have + -ed	perfect progressive have + been + -ing
TENSE:				
Present	<i>go/goes walk/walks</i> →simple present	<i>am/is/are going am/is/are walking</i> →present progressive	<i>have/has gone have/has walked</i> →present perfect	<i>have/has been going have/has been walking</i> →present perfect progressive
Past	<i>went walked</i> →simple past	<i>was/were going was/were walking</i> →past progressive	<i>had gone had walked</i> →past perfect	<i>had been going had been walking</i> →past perfect progressive
Future	<i>will go will walk</i> →simple future	<i>will be going will be walking</i> →future progressive	<i>will have gone will have walked</i> →future perfect	<i>will have been going will have been walking</i> →future perfect progressive

Tense and aspect system in English

- *Do not forget to revise the practical use of tense and aspect system, exceptions and irregularities for the credit test!!!*

Verb patterns and phrasal verbs

- *Do not forget to study verb patterns and phrasal verbs for the credit test as you will certainly need them!!!*
- *For phrasal verbs try for example*
<http://www.englishclub.com/vocabulary/phrasal-verbs-list.htm>