

Lecture Notes:**- Verbs and Predicates:**

- Verbs are traditionally defined as words that express action, such as eat, speak, run, read, walk. But, nouns can very easily name actions too, such as attack, storm, delivery, departure, lightening, action. Therefore, “action” is not exclusive to verbs, and doesn’t provide us with a reliable diagnostic for identifying them.
- Further, verbs can denote states or conditions.
- E.g.
The cat **lay** before the fire.
Nancy **seems** fine today.
Jun **resembles** his grandfather.
The house **remained** unlocked over the week-end.
I **hate** chocolate.
Chen **believes** in UFOs.

- Verb Forms:

- **Finite verb forms** carry time while **non-finite verb forms** do not carry time themselves.
- Chart of finite and non-finite verbs:

Finiteness	Form	Inflection	Example
Non-finite	Infinitive Present Participle Past Participle Plain	To walk Walk-ing Walk-ed Walk	I like to walk. I am walking. I have walked. He will walk.
Finite	Plain Present 3rd Person Singular Past	Walk Walk-s Walk-ed	I walk. He walks. I walked.

- **Note:** Past participles always come after any form of the word “have”.
- **Verb Functions:**
 1. Main Verbs:
 - **Note:** The main verb occurs in their non-finite form when an auxiliary is present.
 - E.g.
I have booked the tickets.
Here, the verb “booked” is in the non-finite form because it’s preceded by the auxiliary verb ‘have’.
 - Main verbs are always preceded by auxiliary or modal verbs and never followed by auxiliary or modal verbs.
 - There can be multiple main verbs in a sentence.
 - Here’s how we can tell if a verb is a main verb:
 1. If it’s the only verb in the sentence.
 2. If it’s preceded by an auxiliary verb.
 2. Helping Verbs:
 - a. Auxiliary verbs:
 - Includes BE, DO, HAVE.

- Chart of auxiliary verbs

Finiteness	Form	Be	Have	Do
Non-finite	Infinitive Present Participle Past Participle Plain	To be Being Been Be	To have Having Had Have	To do Doing Done Do
Finite	Plain Present 3rd Person Singular Past			

- Auxiliaries either occur with a main verb or act as a replacement for the main verb. If BE, DO, or HAVE is the only verb in the sentence then it's a main verb. If it's followed by a verb, then it's an auxiliary verb.
- Auxiliaries always occur with non-finite forms of the main verb.
- Auxiliaries indicate the tense while main verbs give the main meaning.
- E.g.
I will eat.
I have eaten.
He is eating.
Does he enjoy reading?
I like to read. – I do too.

b. Modal verbs:

- Includes will, would, shall, could, can, may, might, must.
- Carries more semantic meaning than auxiliaries.
- Modals signal condition, probability, obligation, possibility, necessity, ability, advisability, permission, revealing the speaker's attitude about the statement he/she is making.
- Modals have only one form - no finite inflections or non-finite forms.
- Modals never occur alone; another verb always follows (in infinitive form) either explicitly or implicitly.
- E.g.
Bob will work tomorrow but Jim will not (work).

- **Time and Tense:**

- **Time:** Relative to moment of speech - past, present, future.
- **Tense:** The verb form used to express time of event and time relationships.

Tense = Time + Aspect.

When we talk about "time", we refer to whether the action happened in the past, present or future.

When we talk about "aspect", we refer to the completion of the action.

I.e. Whether the action is ongoing or completed.

- English tenses can be either simple or complex.

- Simple English tenses include:
 - **Simple present:**
 - Simple present is not really present.
 - It can be used for general facts. E.g. Plants grow in soil.
 - It can also be used for activities that include now, past (historical present), and/or future meaning.
 - E.g. I walk to work everyday.
 - E.g. The train leaves at 6pm.
 - E.g. He smokes cigarettes everyday.
 - Can also be used for storytelling.
 - **Simple past:**
 - Past simple usually refers to an action that started and finished in the past.
 - E.g. I saw a movie yesterday.
 - E.g. Last year, I travelled to Japan.
 - **Simple future:**
 - It can be used to predict a future event.
 - E.g. It will rain tomorrow.
 - It can be used to express a spontaneous decision.
 - E.g. I'll pay for the tickets by credit card.
 - It can be used to express willingness.
 - E.g. I'll do the washing-up.
- Complex English tenses can be:
 - **Ongoing:**
 - Called progressive or continuous.
 - **Progressive tenses in general:** be (past/present/future) + present participle
 - **Past progressive:** was/were + present participle
Used to show an action that was ongoing in the past.
 - E.g. The dog was eating the bone.
 - **Present progressive:** am/is/are + present participle
Used to show an action that is currently ongoing.
 - E.g. The dog is eating the bone.
 - **Future progressive:** will + be + present participle
Used to show an action will be ongoing in the future.
 - E.g. The dog will be eating the bone.
 - **Completed:**
 - Called perfect.
 - **Perfect tenses in general:** have (past/present/future) + past participle
 - **Past perfect:** had + past participle
Used to show which action happened first, assuming there are multiple actions.
 - E.g. When I arrived, they had eaten lunch.
 - E.g. When the doctor arrived, the patient had recovered.
 - **Present perfect:** has/have + past participle
Used to show an action that started in the past and continued to the present time. It may go into the future.
 - E.g. I have worked at this company for 8 years.

- Used to show an action that started in the past and ended in the recent past, but the results are present.
 - E.g. The car is clean. She has washed it.
 - **Future perfect:** will + have + past participle
Used to show an action will be completed sometime in the future.
 - E.g. I will have finished reading this story by next week.
 - E.g. She will have graduated next semester.
- Chart of verbs:

Modal	Perfect	Progressive	Verb	Tense
			takes	Simple present
		is	taking	Present progressive
	has		taken	Present perfect
	has	been	taking	Present perfect progressive
			took	Simple past
		was	taking	Past progressive
	had		taken	Past perfect
	had	been	taking	Past perfect progressive
will			take	Simple future
will		be	taking	Future progressive
will	have		taken	Future perfect
will	have	been	taking	Future perfect progressive

- **Transitivity:**
- Refers to whether a verb is followed by a noun phrase. This noun phrase is called the **object** or **object complement**.
- E.g.
He fainted. (Intransitive)
They destroyed the evidence. (Transitive)
The plane flew over the mountain. (Intransitive since "over the mountain" isn't a NP.)
The pilot flew the plane. (Transitive since "the plane" is a NP.)
I have been expecting you. (Transitive since "you" is a NP.)
I have had a cold all week. (Transitive since "a cold" is a NP.)
We meet up North every year. (Intransitive since "North every year" isn't a NP.)
Frank began to run. (Intransitive since "to run" isn't a NP.)
- Among the transitive verbs, there are those that take one object, **monotransitives**, and those that take two, **ditransitives**.
- E.g.
She wrote [a novel]. (Monotransitive)
She told [him] [the truth]. (Ditransitive)
- **Note:** If there's no object complement after a transitive verb, the sentence won't make grammatical sense.
- E.g. He made. → He made a sandwich.

- **Intransitive verbs** can stand alone in the verb phrase, but don't have to.
- E.g.
The children laughed.
My heart stopped.
The tree swayed in the breeze.
- **Dual-transitivity verbs** are verbs that have both transitive and intransitive uses.
- E.g.
The door opened. & She opened the door.
She read. & She read the letter.

Textbook Notes:

- **What are verbs:**
- **Verbs** usually indicate the action of the sentence. However, verbs may also express perception, mental states or connecting functions. The first group are called **action verbs** while the second group are called **state verbs**.
- **Types of verbs:**
- Verbs can differ based on their function. Some verbs are **main verbs** and some verbs are **helping verbs** or **auxiliaries**.
- Helping verbs include **regular auxiliaries** and **modal auxiliaries**.
- Main verbs express actions or states of being and may occur independently. Helping verbs support main verbs and cannot occur independently. Therefore, based on their function, verbs are classified as below:
 1. **Main:**
 2. **Helping or auxiliary verbs:**
 - i. **Regular auxiliaries:** (BE, DO, HAVE)
 - ii. **Modal auxiliaries:** (can, could, will, would, shall, should, may, might, must, etc.)
- **Note:** if regular auxiliaries are the only verbs in the sentence, they are considered main verbs.
- Modal auxiliaries are helping verbs that occur in conjunction with a main verb; however, unlike regular auxiliaries, modals carry some meaning.
- If there are more than one auxiliary or helping verb in a sentence, to determine the order of the helping verbs with regards to the main verb look at the following:
 - **First** comes the modal auxiliary.
 - **Next** comes any form of HAVE.
 - **Then** comes a form of BE.
 - **Finally** comes the main verb.
- **Verb Forms:**
- A **bare infinitive verb** (the base form) is one that is used without the word to and is often used with modals auxiliaries (can, could, will, would, shall, should, may, might, must).
- E.g. He might come to the party.
- The second verb form is what we call the **present participle** form of the verb. We form the present participle of the verb by adding the suffix -ing to the base of the verb. Note that present participle forms come after the auxiliary verb be.
- E.g. They will be driving to us.
- The third verb form is the **past participle**. The past participle form of the verb occurs mainly after the auxiliary HAVE and sometimes BE which is often formed by adding the

suffix –ed or –en to the base form of the verb. Note that some past participles do not follow this rule and may have an irregular form which is not usually predictable.

- E.g.
We have eaten lunch.
The house should be sold.
- And the last form of the verb that we are going to discuss here is the **infinitive form** of the verb that occurs with the word “to” as in to go, to run, to sleep.
- **Subjects and Predicates:**
- Every complete sentence is made up of two main phrases: a subject and a predicate. The subject is what or whom the sentence is about. The predicate tells us something about the subject. To identify the subject of a sentence, first find the main verb in the sentence. Then make a question by placing ‘who’ or ‘what’ before it.
- E.g.
John and Sarah run on the beach every morning.
“John and Sarah” is the subject of this sentence. The remaining part of the sentence ‘run on the beach every morning’ is called predicate. Notice that subjects are noun phrases and predicates are verb phrases. Therefore, a sentence contains two main phrases: Noun phrase (subject) + Verb Phrase (predicate)
- A **predicate** is the part of the sentence that contains the verb and tells us something about the subject. Predicates are also called verb phrases. A predicate may be one or more words. If a predicate is just a single word, that word must be the verb.
- **Note:** A sentence may have a compound subject. A compound subject is a simple subject made up of more than one noun or pronoun.
- **Transitive and Intransitive verbs:**
- Verbs based on whether they can take an object or not are grouped into transitive and intransitive verbs.
- **Transitive verbs** are followed by a noun phrase. This noun phrase is called the **object** or **object complement**.
- **Intransitive verbs** are not followed by a noun phrase.
- **Dual-transitivity verbs** are verbs that can be both transitive and intransitive verbs.
- E.g. She sang. & She sang a song.
- **Main Verbs & Regular Auxiliaries:**
- Different verb forms for main verbs:
 1. **Bare form:** This is the form where the verb is in its basic form with no inflection or the infinitive “to”. Bare forms are non-finite and usually come after modals as in could, go, will, sit, should.
 2. **Infinitive form (to + verb):** This is when the verb is preceded by “to” as in “I like to go”.
 3. **Past Participle form:** This form comes after auxiliaries “be” (passive verb) and “have” (perfect aspect). Some examples include gone, eaten, written, been, had, taken, sat.
 4. **Gerund (V-ing):** This is a form which is used to replace a noun phrase. Gerunds are usually the subject, object, or subject complement. This is shown in the following examples:
 - a. Smoking is harmful. Here, smoking is the subject.
 - b. I like swimming. Here, swimming is the object.
 - c. My hobby is dancing. Here, dancing is the subject complement.

5. **Past form:** This is the past form of the verb. Some examples include ate, drank, hated, was, did, etc.

6. **Present participle form (V-ing):** This is the form that is used in progressive tenses. In this case, the present participle is preceded by the auxiliary “be”.

7. **Present form:** Some examples of this form include eat/eats dance/dances bite/bites take/takes lay/lays is/am/are has/have.

- **Modal Auxiliaries vs Regular Auxiliaries:**

- Modal auxiliaries are slightly different from regular auxiliaries (do, have, be). Regular auxiliaries show inflection just like main verbs. For instance, there are different forms of “be” depending on tense (am, is, are, was, were, been, being) or “have” (has, have, had) or “do” (do, does, did). They can follow modals (will be, could have, should do) and take the infinitive to (to do, to have, to be). They can also be negated with not. All of these properties suggest that regular auxiliaries are more like verbs.

- Unlike auxiliaries, modals cannot show inflection. They do not follow other modals. They cannot also be preceded by the infinitive marker “to”.

- Note that when regular auxiliaries are preceded by modals, they cannot be inflected for tense. That is the regular auxiliary “be” and “have” should be in their non-finite form or default form.

- E.g.
He should have gone.
He should be gone.

- **Note:** Most speakers of English only allow one modal in a sentence. However, speakers, especially from South Eastern United States, often allow a combination of might and could.

E.g. Judie might could go.

- Unlike regular auxiliary verbs which do not carry much meaning, modals are auxiliaries that are used with the main verb to express ideas such as possibility, probability, necessity, obligation, permission, etc. Let’s look at these modals in more detail:

1. **can/could** (physical ability, skill, etc.)

- a. He can play the piano.
- b. He could ride a bike when he was seven years old.

2. **may, can, could** (permission)

- a. You can leave.
- b. You may leave.
- c. You could leave.

3. **have to** (necessity)

- a. I have to finish my assignment.
- b. I have to clean my room.

4. **don’t have to** (lack of necessity)

- a. You don’t have to leave.
- b. You don’t have to stay.

5. **must** (obligation/law)

- a. You must start at the red light
- b. You had to follow the rules. (had to is used as the past form of must)

6. **must not** (prohibition)

- a. You must not smoke here.
- b. You must not leave your trash outside.

7. **may, might, could** (possibility)

- a. It may rain.
- b. It might rain.
- c. It could rain.

8. must/can't/couldn't + HAVE + Past Participle (logical deduction in the past).

- a. The ground is wet. It must have rained.
- b. He looks very tired. He can't have had enough sleep last night.

9. should/ought to (giving advice)

- a. You should see a doctor.
- b. You ought to study harder.

10. should (expectation)

- a. You should respect your parents.
- b. You should be on time.

11. will (promise, certainty, command, future time)

- a. I'll buy you some toys (promise)
- b. It will rain tomorrow (certainty)
- c. Sit down, will you? (command)
- d. I will leave in the afternoon (future time)

12. would (past habit)

- a. My grandma would tell us stories before bed.
- b. I would smoke every day.

- **Time, Aspect and Tense:**

- English has three different **times**: present, past, and future.

- E.g.

They **eat** their food everyday.

They **ate** their food yesterday.

They **will eat** their food tomorrow.

- **Aspect** is a grammatical category that is associated with verbs. The aspect of a verb is determined by whether the action is **on-going** or **completed**. Aspect is often indicated by the use of auxiliary verbs. Certain auxiliaries are used to indicate that the action is on-going while others including 'have' may signal a completion of the action. There are 3 main aspects:

1. Simple

2. Progressive/Continuous

- Shows that action is/was in progress/on-going.
- This type of aspect is indicated by the auxiliary "be" and the present participle form (verb + ing).

3. Perfect

- Shows that the action is/was completed.
- This type of aspect is indicated by the auxiliary "have" and the past participle form (verb + en).

- **Tense** = Time + Aspect

- **Simple Tenses:**

- The **simple present tense** can express a variety of times. The simple present tense has different uses.

1. For habits and repeated actions.
E.g. He drinks coffee at breakfast.
2. For general truth.
E.g. His father is American.

- The **simple past tense** form expresses past time.
- The simple past is used to express the idea that an action started and finished at a specific time in the past. Sometimes, the speaker may not actually mention the specific time, but they do have one specific time in their mind. Therefore, the actions that are in the past tense are finished events in the past with no connection to the present.
- E.g. We saw a good movie last week.
- The **simple future tense** refers to a time later than now and expresses facts and certainty. The simple future tense is expressed by other words (usually the modal auxiliary 'will') rather than the main verb in the sentence.
- The simple future tense is used to:
 1. To predict a future event.
E.g. It will rain tonight.
 2. Decision at the time speaking (spontaneous decision).
E.g. I will pay the bill (you are telling your friend when the server brings you the bill.)
 3. To express willingness.
E.g. I will help you with the move.
- The simple future tense is composed of two parts: will/shall + bare infinitive (the infinitive without to).
- **Present Progressive:**
- The present progressive is mainly used to express an on-going action or state in the present time.
- Present progressive is formed with: Regular auxiliary (am/is/are) + Present Participle form (verb + ing)
- E.g.
He is leaving now.
The students are taking their test now.
- **Past Progressive:**
- We use the past progressive tense to indicate that a longer action in the past was interrupted by another action. The second action is usually a shorter action in the simple past.
- Past progressive is formed with: Regular auxiliary (was/were) + Present Participle (verb + ing)
- E.g.
They were watching TV when their mom called.
While we were having the picnic, it started to rain.
- **Future Progressive:**
- One of the uses of the future progressive tense is to indicate an on-going action at a specific time in the future.
- This tense is formed with: Modal auxiliary 'will'/'shall'+ "be" + Present Participle (verb + ing)
- E.g. Next Thursday, I will be working in my new job.
- **Present Perfect:**
- We use the present perfect tense to show that an action happened at an unspecified time before now. The exact time is not important. This can be an action that was completed in the immediate past or one that began in the past and continued to the present.

- This makes the present perfect different from the simple past. With the simple past tense, you can use specific time expressions such as: yesterday, one year ago, last week, when I was a child, when I lived in Toronto, that day, one day, etc. However, we can use the present perfect tense with unspecific expressions such as: ever, never, once, many times, several times, before, so far, already, yet, for X years, since X, etc.
- E.g.
I went to Japan last year. (past simple-specific time)
I have been to Japan. (present perfect-unspecific time)
- Present perfect is formed with: Regular auxiliary (have/has) + Past Participle
- Main uses of present perfect:
 1. You can use present perfect to talk about your/an experience in the past. We do not say when the experience happened.
E.g.
I have learned two foreign languages.
I have been to New York.
 2. We often use the present perfect tense to talk about a change that has happened over a period of time.
E.g. My English has improved since I came to Canada.
 3. We use the present perfect tense to show that something started in the past and has continued up until now.
E.g.
I have lived in Canada for 9 years.
I have worked at UofT since 2008.
 4. Sometimes, we use the present perfect tense to talk about an action which happened in the past and finished in the past, but the results are present. Here, the focus is on the result.
E.g.
I can't get into my house. I have lost my keys. (result: cannot get into my house)
She cannot play basketball today. She has hurt her leg. (result: cannot play basketball)
The car is clean. She has washed it. (result: clean car)
- **Past Perfect:**
- The past perfect tense mainly expresses the idea that an action happened before another action in the past. It can also show that something occurred before a specific time in the past.
- Past perfect is formed with: Regular auxiliary (had) + Past Participle
- E.g.
I had studied French before I moved to France.
We had never seen a deer before we came to Toronto.
- **Future Perfect:**
- The future perfect tense expresses the idea that an action will be completed before another action in future. It can also show that something will happen before a specific time in the future.

- The future perfect tense is formed with: Modal Auxiliary 'will'+ Regular Auxiliary (have) + Past Participle
- E.g.
By next August, I will have received my diploma.
I will have learned enough German before I move to Hamburg.