

February 24, 2006

## CLASS 9: TENSE, ASPECT, MOOD

### TERMINOLOGY

- verb, auxiliary (open class vs. closed class)
- (inflectional / bound) morpheme
- (non-)finiteness

### VERBS

The verbal paradigm determines inflectional properties of verbs in a language.

- English:
- inflectional form vs. shape
  - primary vs. secondary forms
  - preterite vs. present tense
  - 3rd singular present vs. plain form
  - gerund / present vs. past participle

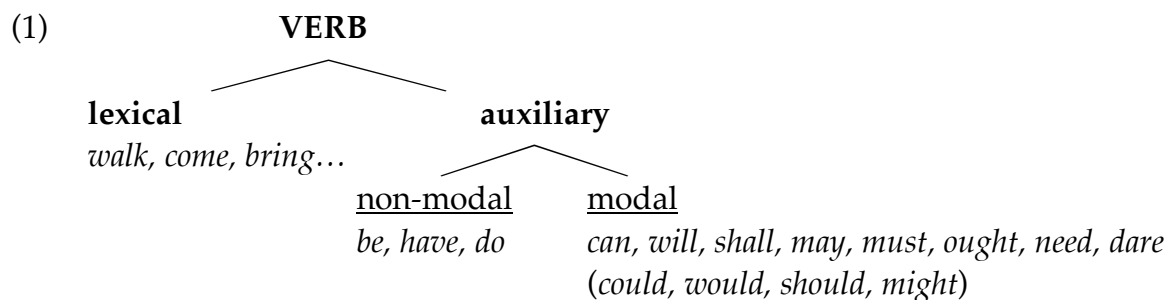
Clauses are either *finite* or *non-finite*.

- finite:
- primary verb form
  - plain verb form (imperative, subjunctive)

- non-finite:
- participial verb form
  - plain verb form (infinitive)

⇒ partial fit between finiteness and verb inflection

Auxiliaries can be *modal* or *non-modal*.



Consider the interaction of the 4 systems (primary & secondary tense, aspect, mood):

(2)	SYSTEM	TERMS	MARKING
1.	<i>primary tense</i>	preterite present	preterite inflection present tense inflection
2.	<i>secondary tense</i>	perfect non-perfect	<i>have</i> with past participle [no special marking]
3.	<i>aspect</i>	progressive non-progressive	<i>be</i> with present participle [no special marking]
4.	<i>mood</i>	modal non-modal	modal with plain form [no special marking]

### TENSE

#### primary tense:

- *present tense*
  - present time (utterance time?), future I (futate), future II (subordinate), past time (historic present)
- *preterite*
  - past time, modal preterite, backshift

#### secondary tense:

- *present perfect*
  - time adjuncts, current relevance, preterite perfect, perfect without primary tense, continuative perfect

### ASPECT

*Aspect* is used to “indicate how the speaker views the situation described in the clause with respect not to its location in time but to its temporal structure or properties.”

- *progressive aspect*
- *progressive and imperfectivity*
- *progressive vs. non-progressive*
- *progressive futurate*

### MOOD

“*Mood* is a grammatical category associated with the semantic dimension of *modality*. Mood is to modality as tense is to time: tense and mood are categories of grammatical form, while time and modality are the associated categories of meaning.”

- *factual vs. non-factual*
- *asserted vs. non-asserted*
- *epistemic, deontic, dynamic modality*
- *futurity, modality, and will*
- *preterite forms and irrealis were*