

# THE VERBALS

# NON-FINITE FORMS

## NO

- person, number, mood
- predicate

## YES

- tense and voice distinctions (relative)
- Double nature (nominal and verbal)
- Predicative constructions

# NON-FINITE FORMS

- The participle
- The gerund
- The infinitive

# THE INFINITIVE

a noun derives from a verb stem

# Characteristics

## Nominal

- Subject

*To do that was dangerous*

- Predicative

*Her plan was to marry him*

- Object

*He never learnt to read*

## Verbal

- Take a direct object

*He liked to read poetry*

- Modified by an adverb

*I cannot do it so fast*

- Voice and tense distinctions

# Tense and voice distinctions

	Active	Passive
Indefinite (Simple)	<b>to write</b>	<b>to be written</b>
Continuous	<b>to be writing</b>	
Perfect	<b>to have written</b>	<b>to have been written</b>
Perfect Continuous	<b>to have been writing</b>	

# The indefinite (simple) infinitive

expresses an action simultaneous with the action expressed by the finite verb. It may refer to the present, past or future.

- *I am glad to meet you.*
- *I was glad to see Mr. Paul.*
- *Mr. Forsyte will be very glad to see you.*

# The continuous infinitive

also denotes an action simultaneous with that expressed by the finite verb, but it is the action in the progress.

- *He is sure to be working in the laboratory.*
- *They must be still having a rest at the sea.*



# The perfect infinitive

denotes an action prior to the action expressed by the finite verb.

- *«I am glad to have seen you» he said.*
- *I am glad to have taken your advice.*
- *I am sorry not to have been present at the meeting.*

# The perfect continuous infinitive

denotes an action which lasted a certain time before the action of the finite verb. It is not only a tense form, but also an aspect form.

- *All this time the boy seemed to have been admiring you greatly.*

# The voice distinctions

The infinitive of transitive verbs has special forms for the active and the passive voice.

- *It is so glorious to love and to be loved*
- *The translation must be done in time.*
- *It can't be changed overnight.*
  
- There is no time to lose. / There is no time to be lost.

# 'BARE' INFINITIVE

1) After auxiliary verbs:

*I don't understand the meaning of this passage.*

2) After modal verbs except the verb *ought*:

*If one cannot have what one loves, one must love what one has.*

3) After verbs denoting sense perception,:

*I never saw you look so before.*

*We often heard her sing over the radio.*

4) After the verb to let:

*Let him go now.*

*Let us be friends.*

5) After the verbs to make, to have in the meaning of «ЗАСТАВЛЯТЬ»

*What makes you think so?*

*I had them take my baggage.*

**BUT**

- *He was heard to mention your name several times*
- *They were seen to leave the house early in the morning*

6) After the expressions **had better, would rather, would sooner, cannot but, nothing but, cannot choose but; need scarcely (only, hardly):**

*You had better go to bed.*

*I would rather not speak upon the subject.*

*I cannot but think so.*

*There was nothing left for him to do but watch and wait.*

7) In sentences of a special type (infinitive sentence) beginning with «why» when the infinitive has the force of a predicate:

*Why not come and talk to her yourself?*