**Advanced syntax**

For the 4th year Students of

Morning and Evening English department at the College of Education / Salahaddin University

**Collected By:**

Omer Fuad /Evening 4th year student (From Dr. Dilovan’s Lectures of Syntax in 2022)

Reviewed By: Dr. Dilovan Sayfuaddin Ghafoory (The Lecturer)

**2022 - 2023**

VP: is a group of words that either begin with an auxiliary or main verb

e.g.

\* He is reading outside.

 VP(Aux +MV)

\* He is a clever person.

VP(MV only)

\* The person that you respected has already been waiting for your booklets.

VP(Aux +MV)

Types of VP:

- Finite: It is a type of VP that has tense

- Non-finite: it is another type of VP which does not have tense.It consists of three other sub types like:

Bare infinitive (without to)

1. Infinitive

Split Infinitive(when we have a manner adverb between to and base: to cleverly answer him )

Infinitive (with to)

1. Gerunds
2. Participle

e.g./ She has washed it.

Finite VP

1. Infinitive:

Note: Bare infinitive: hear, bid, make, let… + bare infinitive

1- The students {helped me (to carry the box)}.

{} = finite VP

( ) = Non- finite VP (infinitive)

2- He {made her (cry)}.

{} = finite VP

( ) = Non- finite VP (bare infinitive)

3- I {will let you (go as soon as possible)}.

{} = finite VP

( ) = Non- finite VP (bare infinitive)

Note (exclusive): Find the subject then remove it and what is remained is the finite vp.

Q/ (to blame yourself) can be put in 3 sentences ,in the 1st as subject ,in the 2nd as complement ,in the 3rd as object. Explain this.

A/1To blame yourself is difficult. (as subject)

 You do not like to blame yourself. (as Object)

The final decision is to blame yourself. (as Complement)

2) Gerund

It is v-ing that acts as a noun. It comes after main verb, after preposition, after possessive pronouns, before main verb or aux.

Note (Exclusive): Any v-ing which can be replaced by the word(something) is considered gerund.

1- I {like (speaking with you)}.

{} = finite VP

( ) = Non- finite VP Gerund as object because like is transitive verb

(preposition)

2- They {played fantastically for (winning the game)}.

{} = finite VP

( ) = Non- finite VP Gerund as object of the preposition for

 (Possessive pronouns)

3- They {like our (reading)}.

{} = finite VP

( ) = Non- finite VP Gerund

 Main verb

4- (Listening) {is important}.

{} = finite VP

( ) = Non- finite VP Gerund as subject used before a verb

3) Participle

It is a type of non-finite VP which is in the form of V.ing or V.ed, en(P.P). It comes before (precedes) subject. It can also come at the end of the sentence.

e.g.

1- (Reading in the cafeteria), he {failed in the exam}.

{} = finite VP

( ) = Participle non- finite VP

2- He {was listening to the CD (to improve himself)}.

{} = finite VP

( ) = Non- finite VP Infinitive with to

Note: Be careful that to the CD in example 2 above is not infinitive with to because there is no verb base after to

3- She {became sad}, (insulted among her friends).

{} = finite VP

( ) = Participle non- finite VP

4- (Speaking fluently) {is necessary}.

{} = finite VP

( ) = Non- finite VP Gerund (as subject)

Places of Gerund

1- Subject position 🡪 (Reading this novel) {is important}

{} = finite VP

( ) = Non- finite VP Gerund as subject

Transitive verb

2- Object position 🡪 They {try (sending emails to me)}.
{} = finite VP

Note: When the verb -ing is coming after verb be ,at this time the v-ing is considered gerund as complement. But on a condition if we have it as an empty or introductory subject because it does not refer to any noun . But unlike example A below because it refers to the noun cat. So drinking is finite.

A: The cat is coming and it{is drinking the milk}.

کەواتە ئەم ڕستەیە (gerund) نییە چونکە (it)ەکە لۆ (The cat) گەڕایتەوە

( ) = Non- finite VP Gerund as Object

Empty (it)

introductory(it)

3- Complement position 🡪 It is (listening).

( ) = Non- finite VP Gerund as Complement

preposition

4- After preposition 🡪 In (cleaning windows), she {can do her best}.

{} = finite VP

( ) = Non- finite VP Gerund after preposition

Possessive pronoun

5- After possessive pronouns(my,his,her,their,its,our,your) 🡪 His (speaking) {is fantastic}.

{} = finite VP

( ) = Non- finite VP Gerund after the possessive pronoun (his)

Major 🡪 Finite=sentence

**Clause**

Minor finite

 non-finite

Clause is a sentence or part of sentence

 Major Minor

 Finite Finite Non-finite

[She tries to convince them.]

[ ] = Major clause / Finite clause

* Types of minor clause:

**1- Adjective clause**

**2- Noun clause**

**3- Adverb clause**

Note: 1. A sentence without finite verb is incomplete because all sentences should have a main verb.

2. The form of minor cl. is { Cl. marker + subject + verb+…}

3.Each type of minor cl has its own special cl markers.

**1- Adjective clause**

Adjective clause is a minor clause that cannot be used alone. It does not have complement meaning. It is not a sentence. It can be finite or non-finite. It describes (modifies) the noun or noun phrase that precedes it.

Antecedent

e.g.: [The student (who left his books in the class) {is jack}]

[ ] = sentence =finite clause = major clause

{} = finite VP

( ) = adjective clause =minor clause=dependent or subordinate cl=finite cl

The student who left his books in the class is subject of the whole sentence.

Antecedent: It is the noun or NP that comes before adjective clause .

Note: when (subject) and (verb) are present in the minor clause ,the minor cl becomes finite cl , but when one of them or both of them is/are absent, the minor clause becomes non-finite.

Antecedent

[I {respect the students (who study much)}]

[ ] = sentence / finite clause / major clause

{} = finite VP

( ) = adjective clause / minor clause….

**2- Noun clause:**

It is a clause that takes the following positions:

1- as subject : (What I want from you) {is important}.

{} = finite VP

( ) = noun clause as subject

2- as object : She {knows (why you come late).}

{} = finite VP

( ) = noun clause as object because it comes after the transitive verb know

3- as complement : Here the N Cl should come after verb to be or linking verb(LV). For example: This {is (what I told you).}

{} = finite VP

( ) = noun clause as complement

Note: 1. Usually N. Cl. is replaced by something or by one of the object pronouns like :it ,them ,us….

Antecedent

1- The place (where he visited) {was Bekhal and Jundian}.

{} = finite VP

( ) = Adjective clause

Transitive verb

2- They {knew (where he visited)}

{} = finite VP

( ) = noun clause as object

3- (when the game starts) {is not your problem}.

{} = finite VP

( ) = noun clause as subject

4- This {is (why we all like to watch football match).}

{} = finite VP

( ) = noun clause as complement

5- (What I say) {is a rule.}

{} = finite VP

( ) = noun clause as subject before a verb

**3- Adverb clause**

It is a minor clause that has some types:

1- Adverb clause of place 🡪 after intransitive verb. Where is cl marker

[She {studies (where I studied)}]

[ ] = sentence / major clause / finite clause

{} = finite VP

( ) = adverb clause of place / minor clause

2- Adverb clause of time: Here the cl markers are: since, when, as, while,before ,after…

Clause marker

They {arrived (while we were eating).}

{} = finite VP

( ) = adverb clause of time =minor clause=subordinate=dependent

Adverb clause types

Transitive verb + object

3- Adverb clause of manner:

Intransitive

The cl markers are: how ,as (if)..

Transitive verb

object

[She {treats them (how I treat my friends)}.]

[ ] = sentence = major clause = finite clause

{} = finite VP

( ) = adverb clause of manner / minor clause

Intransitive verb

[They {played (how we played)}.]

[ ] = sentence / major clause / finite clause

{} = finite VP

( ) = adverb clause of manner / minor clause

4- Adverb clause of reason: As, since, because of, for ,because

Clause marker

[My friend {is not coming today}, (as she is ill).]

[ ] = sentence / major clause / finite clause

{} = finite VP

( ) = adverb clause of reason / minor clause

Clause marker

[(As I was busy with my study), somebody knocked at the door.]

[ ] = sentence / major clause / finite clause

( ) = adverb clause of time / minor clause

5 - Adverb clause of condition: if, in case, unless, as long as, or ,whether or not

Clause marker

[(If we plant the tree today), we {will harvest it tomorrow}.]

[ ] = sentence / major clause / finite clause

{} = finite VP

( ) = adverb clause of condition / minor clause

Clause marker

[Give me your money, (or I {will kill you)}.]

[ ] = sentence / major clause / finite clause

{} = finite VP

( ) = adverb clause of condition / minor clause

Unless:

A- Negative, unless positive

B- Positive, unless negative

C- unless positive, negative

Clause marker

[(Unless she hurries up), we {will not arrive in time}.]

[ ] = sentence / major clause / finite clause

{} = finite VP

( ) = adverb clause of condition / minor clause

[Don’t move, (unless I {tell you}).]

[ ] = sentence / major clause / finite clause

{} = finite VP

( ) = adverb clause of condition / minor clause

-[We {will do the game} (unless the weather does not get better)]. This means that If the weather is away from not being better ,we will do the game.

-[The politicians in the world {will not get public support}( unless they decrease taxes).]

6 - Adverb clause of purpose: we have 6 main clause markers

Can, could

Shall, should

May, might

Will, would

+ S + + base

So that

In order that

To

In order to

+ base

So as to

For 🡪 V.ing

Clause marker

[I {will give you the map}, (so that you {can find the way}).]

[ ] = sentence / major clause / finite clause

{} = finite VP

( ) = adverb clause of purpose / minor clause

Clause marker

(For being away from problems), he does not like to be friendly with them.

( ) = adverb clause of purpose(It can also become Adv cl of reason)=minor clause

Clause marker

(For he was incredibly bad), he was not elected

( ) = adverb clause of reason(It is not Adv cl of purpose) = minor clause

7 - Adverb clause of concession:

It is the last type of adv cl which has a meaning different from the meaning of the major cl. It has these cl markers:

1- Although

NP

2- in spite of

V.ing

3- Despite the fact that + S

Clause marker

Although she {is young}, [she {is very independent}.]

[ ] = sentence / major clause / finite clause

{} = finite VP

( ) = adverb clause of concession / minor clause

Clause marker

(Despite the fact that the weather is fine), [they {try to stay indoors}.]

[ ] = sentence / major clause / finite clause

{} = finite VP

( ) = adverb clause of concession / minor clause

Clause marker

(In spite of having too much pressure), [I {can still work}.]

[ ] = sentence / major clause / finite clause

{} = finite VP

( ) = adverb clause of concession / minor clause

Note: All adjective clauses, all adverb clauses, all noun clauses are finite clauses when they have subject and verb. There should also be tense.

(What I want from you) {is to study}.

{} = finite VP

( ) = noun clause as subject / minor clause

-Non-finite clauses Non-finite VPs(Gerund ,Infinitive and Participle)

 Verbless clauses Finite Cl

 Non-finite Cl

 Sentence(verbless without subject and verb) Happy to meet you

Finite Cl Minor Cl(with subject and verb) Because he got 90 in Syntax

 Sentence(with subject and verb) He is at the hospital

- Finite verbless Cl is a sentence that lacks subject and verb(finite verb). The finite verb is implied. It mainly begins with an adj and sometimes begins with a noun.

 (the missing words are: *I ,am*) Pleased to see you here .

 (the missing words are: *It ,is*) Pleasure to have you in this gallery.

(the missing words are: *We ,are*) Honoured to teach with you all.

-**Non-finite verbless Cl**:

It is a type of non-finite cl which starts with a cl marker .Here there is no subject and verb(no finite verb). This is usually found in the seven Adv cl types.

1.While seen by the doctor ,I was chatting with my friend.(Missed words are: *he,was*)

2.Although met in the office by one of his friends ,they denied to be there. (Missed words are: *they,were*)

3. We were blacklisted for being incapable of answering some of their questions. (Missed words are: *we,were*)

4. If active till the end of the year, they will be given full marks . (Missed words are: *they,are*)

In the examples 1,2,3 and 4 above, the underlined parts are verbless non-finite cls.

Q: Make the underlined part in the e.g 4 above finite cl.

A:If they are active till the end of the year (Finite cl ,Minor cl ,Adv cl of condition)

**Phrasal verb and Prepositional Verb**

Phrasal verb is a verb which consists of a verb and a particle. The meaning of each one of these two words is different from the meaning of the whole.

quit

Give up

Phrasal verb

Up is particle

Take care

Look after

Phrasal verb

After is particle

Phrasal verbs have these characteristics(B,C,D are not used for Intr.Phrasal verbs):

1. They are idiosyncratic i.e their meanings are different from the meaning of their components(constituents). So they are idiomatic. Other examples are: call up ,give in ,take off ,put down ,put on ,turn in….

B.The following NP can come between the verb and the particle. So the verb and the particle are separated .

 C.The particle does not go with the NP that follows it. (So there is a pause between the particle and the following NP ).

 D.We can move the following NP to the beginning before the subject.

Consider these examples:

1.They called up the president.(choose, here up is not Prep. or Adv, it is particle )

2.He covers up the scandal. (hide ,here up is not Prep. or Adv, it is particle)

3.Helen turned in her homework.(hand in here in is not Prep. or Adv,it is particle)

In the e.gs above called up , covers up and turned in are phrasal verbs

1.because their meanings differ from their components

2. because the NPs like *the president ,the scandal* and *her homework* can come between the verbs *called ,covers ,turned* and their particles *up* (1 & 2) and *in* .

3.because the particles *up* (1 & 2) and *in* do not go with these NPs *the president, the scandal* and *her homework .*So we cannot say *up the president ,up the scandal ,in her homework .*

*4.*because we can move the following NPs *the president ,the scandal* and *her homework* to the beginning before the subjects like below:

 -It was the president, they called up.

 -It is the scandal ,he covers up.

 -It was her homework ,she turned in.

**-Prepositional Verbs**

Prep.verb is a verb which consists of a verb and a preposition or an Adv. The meaning of each one of these two words is not different from the meaning of the whole. Examples of Prep.V. are written below:

{ abide by ,allow for, reply to ,refer to ,apply for ,account for ,insist on ,resort to, result in, search for..…}

In (He searches for the key.) and (She goes down the street) the two-word verbs :*search for and go down* are Prep.Vs because of the reasons below:

1.because the meanings of the whole do not differ from that of their components .

2. because the NPs like *the key* and *the street* cannot come between the verbs *searches* and goes and their Preps *for* and *down* .

3.because the Preps *for* and *down* can go with their NPs like *the key* and *the street .*So we can say *:for the key* and *down the street .*

4.because we cannot move the following NPs like *the key* and *the street* to the beginning before the subjects. So we cannot say :

\*It was the key she searches for

\*It was the street she goes down

Note: This symbol \* is called asterisk .If it is seen on any sentence ,it means the sentence is ungrammatical.

* The intransitive phrasal verbs are: carry on(continue),die out(diminish) ,drop out(stop participating)…Only characteristic A is used for such phrasal verbs.
* More transitive phrasal verbs are bring out (publish) ,bring up (raise a child) ,bring off (accomplish).
* Phrasal Prepositional verbs are colloquially used.(e.gs: put up with ,get away with ,come up with…..). So here we have particle and a preposition after the verb.