CLASS IX & X
ENGLISH GRAMMAR
PART II
LESSON 9
AUXILIARY VERBS

NOTES

Verbs like *is, has, will*, etc. which are used to help some other verbs to form tense, mood and voice are called Auxiliary Verbs. They are used for a variety of functions besides these. They are also used for the formation of the interrogative and the negative. These verbs are classified into two groups: *Non-finite forms and finite forms*.

Non-finite forms			Finite forms	
Infinitive	Present Participle	Past Participle	Present Tense	Past Tense
Be	being	been	Am, is, are	was, were
Have	having	had	Have, has	had
Do	doing	done	Do, does	did
			Shall	should
			Will	would
			Can	could
			May	might
			Must	
			Need	
			Dare	
			Ought to	
				Used to

The 24 finite forms of these auxiliaries are also called '*Anomalous Finites'*.

The Anomalous Finites are placed under two classes:

i. They are important as structural words. They are used for negative and interrogative formation.
ii. They are used to form moods for which English has no inflected forms. In such cases, they are called '**Modal Verbs'** or '**Modal Auxiliaries'.**

Formation of Negative Sentences:
Example: I am happy. (Affirmative)
　　　　　I am not happy. (Negative)

i. The negative is formed by adding 'not' to the 24 Anomalous Finites.

ii. Non-Anomalous Finites require the Auxiliary verb.

Formation of Interrogative Sentences: Interrogative sentences are formed in different ways.

i. In case of Anomalous Finites, there is inversion of the subject and the finite verb.
Example: She is good. (Assertive)
　　　　　 Is she good? (Interrogative)

When the verb is not Anomalous Finite, the Auxiliary Verbs – *do, does, did* are used.
Example: They drink water. (Assertive)
　　　　　　 Do they drink water? (Interrogative)

In forming 'tag' question, the Anomalous Finites are used.
Example: This is sweet, isn't it?

The Anomalous Finites are used for the short answer questions:
Example: Do you love him?
　　　　　　Yes, I do.
　　　　　　 No, I don't.

More about the Anomalous/ Non-anomalous Finites. (Do and Have Verbs)
The finites of 'be' i.e. 'am', 'is', 'are', 'was', and 'were' are anomalous whether they are used as link verbs or auxiliaries.
Examples:
She is beautiful. Is she beautiful?
She isn't beautiful. Isn't she beautiful?

'Be' is used in imperatives.
Example: Be careful.

'Do be' is also used in the imperative.
Example: Do be helpful to the poor.

'Have', 'has' and 'had' are always anomalous when used as auxiliary in the formation of the perfect tenses.
Examples: I have seen the picture.
　　　　　　 He has done the work.

'Have' is used to indicate possession or ownership.
Example: How many pens have you (got)?

When 'have' is used to mean take/receive/experience, the finites are non-anomalous:
Example: What did you have in the breakfast?

The Modal Auxiliaries: Modal Auxiliaries –shall/should, will/would, can/could, may/might, must, need, dare, ought (to), and used (to) are always anomalous. All of them have three common features. They are:

They are always followed by an infinitive without 'to' i.e. the bare infinitive.
Examples:
I can do it.
He will go there**.**

They have the same form in all persons and numbers.
Examples:
I can do it.
You can do it.
He/she/it/they can do it.

The modal auxiliaries do not have the infinitive or the participle forms. That is why they are also called the defective verbs.

Uses of the Modal Auxiliaries:

Shall:
With the first person, it indicates simple futurity.
Example: I shall leave for Delhi tomorrow.

With the second and third persons, it may express a command, promise, threat or determination.
Examples:
(i) You shall bring the book. (Command)
(ii) You shall be given a prize. (Promise)
(iii) You shall pay for this. (Threat)
(iv) Everyone shall follow the rule. (Determination)

Will: Very often it is generally regarded that 'will' is different from 'shall' in its relation to the three persons.

When it is used with the second and third persons, it expresses simple futurity.
Example: He will come one day.

With the first person, it may express a determination, threat, promise or willingness.
Examples:
(i)   I will go there whatever may happen. (Determination)
(ii)   I will help you when you need. (Promise)
(iii)   We will punish you if you don't come. (Threat)
(iv)   I will do this for your sake. (Willingness)

(**Note:** Nowadays, strict use of these two modal verbs with these meanings seems to be losing ground. Very often, the contracted form ('ll) is used for both.)

Should: 'Should' is the past tense of 'shall'. It is used with all the three persons.

a.   It expresses a duty or obligation.
Example: You should obey your teachers.

It is used to indicate supposition, possibility, condition etc.
Examples:
(i)   Should danger come, we shall remain united.
(ii)   You should give it up, if it is against the law.
(iii)   If it should rain, I shall not go.

It is used after 'lest' to express a negative purpose.
Example: Work hard lest you should fail.

Sometimes, it is used after verbs and phrases indicating determination or willingness, threat, order or promise.
Example: He has ordered that you should play today.

Would: It is the past tense of 'will'. It is used to express different shades of meaning.
To express a wish
Example: I would like to be a doctor.

To indicate refusal
Example: In winter, the engine wouldn't start.

To express past habits
Example: They would sit for hours in the park.

To express politeness
Example: Would you kindly open the door?

To denote condition or uncertainty
Example: I would go there if I were allowed.

Must, ought to: They are used to express 'desirability', 'moral obligation' and 'duties'. There is a slight difference in meaning between 'must' and 'ought to'. 'Must' is preferred if the obligation comes from the speaker. 'Ought to' mainly expresses of what would be good for somebody. They express a compulsion, certainty or duty.

> **Examples:**
> We must obey our parents.
> Everyone ought to love his country.

Need: It is used both as a Principal Verb and an Auxiliary Verb.
> **i.** As a Principal verb, it is used in the sense of require.
> **Example:** We need food for life.
>
> **ii.** As an Auxiliary Verb, 'need' is uninfected. The form remains the same with all persons and numbers. It is commonly used with 'not'.
> **Example:** You need not go there.
>
> **iii.** In the Interrogative Sentences, 'need' is used without 'not'.
> **Example:** Need I come again?
>
> **iv.** As an anomalous finite 'need' is generally used in the negative.
> In the Third Person Singular, it is used without '-s' in the Present Tense.
> **Example:** She need not be disappointed.

Dare: It is used both as a regular verb and an anomalous verb. It means to 'have the courage to do something'. The anomalous 'dare' is used with a bare infinitive. The form remains the same with all persons and numbers. It is mainly used in the negative and in the interrogative. In the interrogative, it is present after 'how'.

> **Examples:**
> **i.** She dare not oppose me.
> **ii.** How dare you insult the girl?

Used to: It refers to an activity or a state that happened many times in the past. It generally takes an infinitive.
> **Example:** We used to sit together.

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