

## Word-Classes in E4BT

### 2. VERBS – part I

English has three kinds of verbs:

#### 1. **full verbs** (also called **main verbs** or **lexical verbs**)

- ✓ tell you “what happened” or “what the situation is”;
- ✓ have **regular** and/or **irregular** forms → **verbal paradigms**;
- ✓ can be used **transitively** and/or **intransitively**;
- ✓ have an **active** and a **passive** form.
- ✓ **grammatical collocations** (e.g.: *to aim at + -ing form* or *to + basic form*, *to call for*, *to deal with*, *to focus on*, *to protect against*, *to result in*, *to result from*, *to suffer from*, *to be infected with* and so on ...);
- ✓ **lexical collocations** (e.g.: *to administer a drug*, *to become ill*, *to become infected*, *to develop cancer*, *to develop a vaccine*, *to give sb a vaccine*, and so on);
- ✓ **false friends** (e.g.: *to administer*, *to attend*, *to arrange*, *to expect*, *to occur*, *to pretend*, *to process*, *to realize*, *to recover*, and so on);
- ✓ **compound predicates or verbs** (e.g.: *The ducks flew overhead and landed in the water*).

#### 2. **auxiliaries**

- ✓ to be (was/were, been) [used to form continuous forms (to be + -ing form) and passive forms (to be + past participle)]
- ✓ to have (had, had) [used to form present perfect (have/has + past participle) and past perfect (had + past participle)]
- ✓ to do (did, done) = [used to form negative and interrogative forms of present simple and past simple]
- ✓ are used to make complex verbal structures.

#### 3. **modals** (also called **auxiliary modals**)

- ✓ can, could; may, might; will, would; shall, should; have to, must, need, ought to ... and so on
- ✓ add subjective extra meanings.

## GRAMMAR POINT

### Modal Verbs

- ✓ The **modal verbs** are **can, could, may, might, must, ought to, shall, should, will** and **would**. **Dare, need, have to** and **used to** also share some of the features of modal verbs.
- ✓ Modal verbs have only one form. They have no *-ing* or *-ed* forms and do not add *-s* to the 3rd person singular form: *He can speak three languages. She will try and visit tomorrow.*
- ✓ Modal verbs are followed by the infinitive of another verb without **to**. The exceptions are **ought to, have to** and **used to**: *You must find a job. You ought to stop smoking. I used to smoke but I gave up two years ago.*
- ✓ Questions are formed without **do/does** in the present, or **did** in the past: *Can I invite Mary? Should I have invited Mary?*
- ✓ Negative sentences are formed with **not** or the short form **-n't** and do not use **do/does** or **did**.

(source: <https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com>)