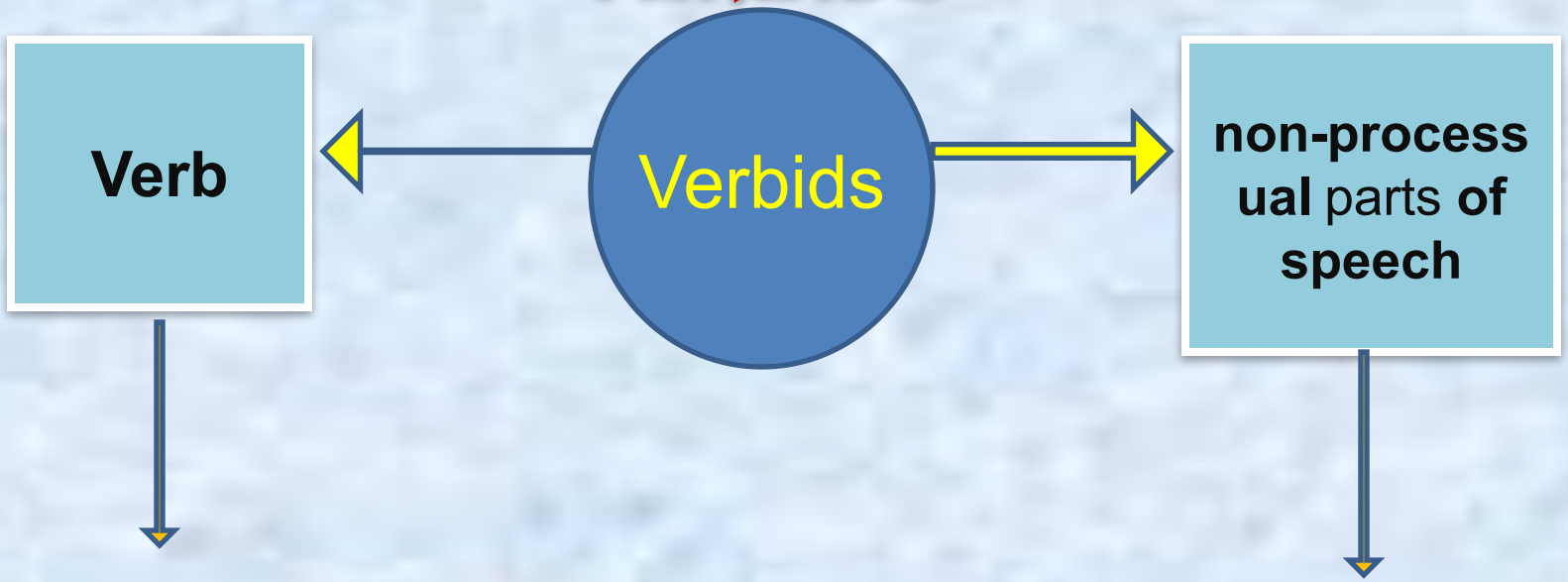
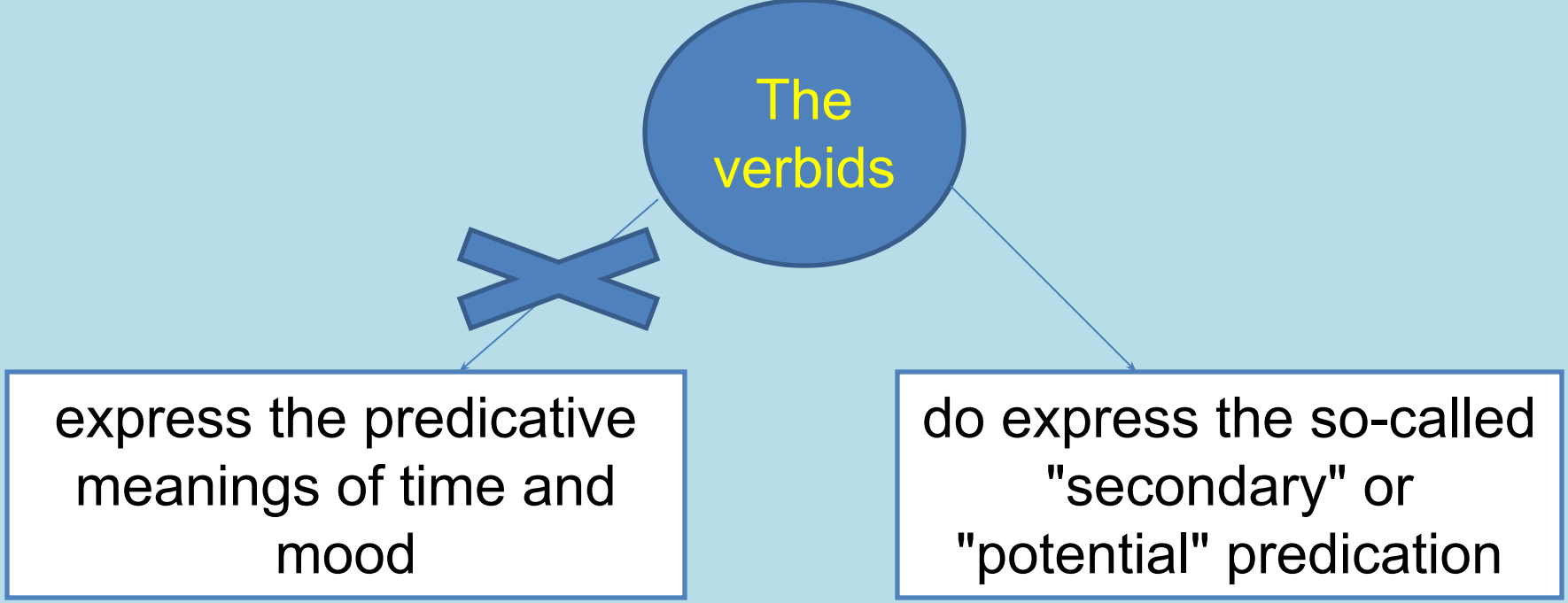
THE CATEGORIAL SYSTEM OF ENGLISH VERBAL

SEMANTIC, MORPHOLOGICAL AND SYNTACTICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF VERBIDS



can be combined with non-processual lexemes (performing verbal functions in the sentence)

can be combined with verbs (performing non-verbal functions in the sentence)



They form syntactic complexes directly related to certain types of subordinate clauses.

Cf.:

Have you ever had *anything caught in your head*?

Have you ever had anything *that was caught in your head*? —

He said it half under his breath *for the others not to hear it*. — He said it half under his breath, so *that the others couldn't hear it.*

THE INFINITIVE

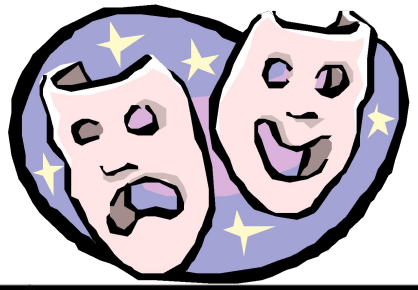
THE PRESENT PARTICIPLE

The English verbids

THE PAST PARTICIPLE

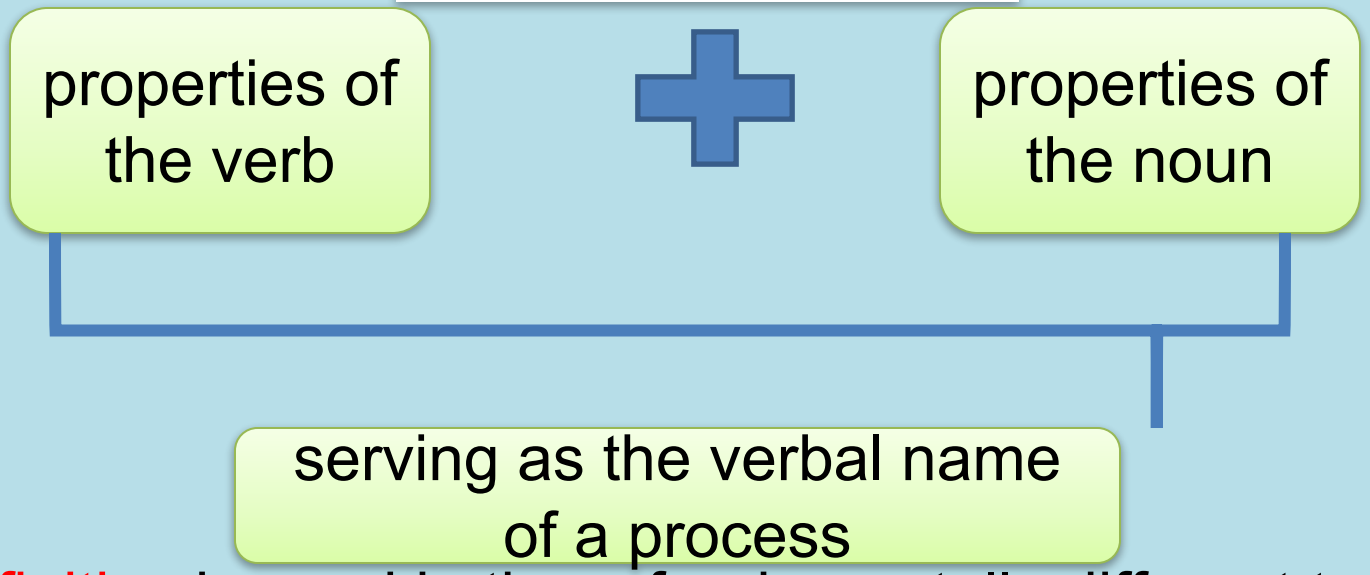
THE GERUND

The dual nature of verbals (nominal and verbal).



The infinitive.	The gerund.	The present participle (I).	The past participle (II)
It has the dual verbal- nominal meaning. The infinitive denotes the corresponding process in an abstract, substance-like presentation. Ex.:- Do you really mean to go away and leave me here alone?> What do you really mean?	It has the dual meaning, like that of the infinitive, combining the properties of the verb with those of the noun. Ex.: I enjoy (verb)running (noun).	It combines the properties of the verb with those of the adjective and adverb.It's not only dual, but triple by its lexico- grammatical properties. Ex.: Leaving the room hurriedly (adverb), he ran out. The street was full of people,laughing and going home.	It combines the properties of the verb with those of the adjective. Ex.:The boy invited by Peter is a friend of mine.

THE INFINITIVE



The infinitive is used in three fundamentally different types of functions:

.as a notional, self-positional syntactic part of the sentence (grammatically ” free”);

.as the notional constituent of a complex verbal predicate (grammatically ” half- free”);

.as the notional constituent of a finite conjugation form of the verb (grammatically ” bound”).

The self-positional infinitive performs the functions of all types of notional sentence-parts, i. e. the subject, the object, the predicative, the attribute, the adverbial

"for-to infinitive phrase"

If the infinitive in free use has its own subject, it is introduced by the preposition-particle for.

Cf.: *For that shy-looking young man to have stated his purpose so boldly* — incredible!

the semi-predicative constructions of the complex object and complex subject

- **with some transitive verbs (of physical perceptions, mental activity, declaration, compulsion, permission, etc.)**

We have never heard *Charlie play his violin*. → *Charlie* has never been heard *to play his violin*.
The members of the committee expected *him to speak against the suggested resolution*. → *He* was expected by the members of the committee *to speak against the suggested resolution.*

The infinitive is a categorically changeable form. It distinguishes the three grammatical categories:

1. the aspective category of development (continuous in opposition);
2. the aspective category of retrospective coordination (perfect in opposition);
3. the category of voice (passive in opposition).

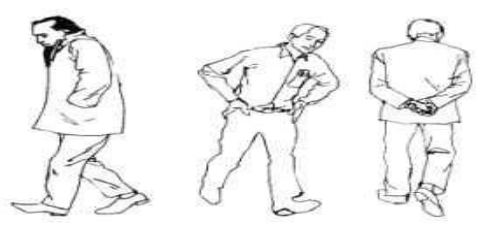
The categorial paradigm of the infinitive of the objective verb includes eight forms:

the indefinite active - the continuous active - the perfect active - the perfect continuous active;
the indefinite passive - the continuous passive - the perfect passive - the perfect continuous passive.

E.g.: to take — to be taking — to have taken — to have been taking;
to be taken —to be being taken — to have been taken — to have been being taken.

The infinitive paradigm of the non-objective verb, correspondingly, includes four forms.

E.g.: to go —to be going— to have gone — to have been going.



The two presentation forms of the infinitive

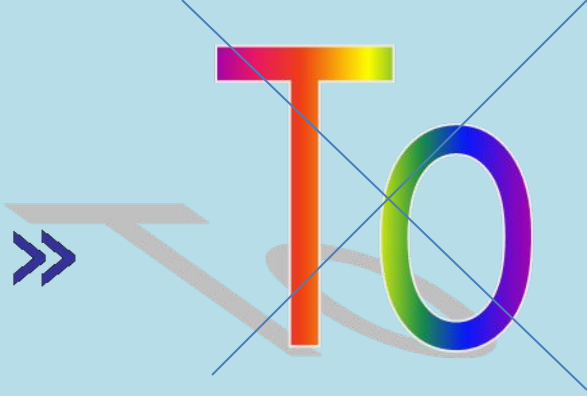
To- infinitive

(«marked infinitive»)- it's characterized by the free use of the infinitive, is distinguished by the prepositional marker to.

Bare infinitive

(«unmarked infinitive»)- it's characterized by the bound uses of the infinitive; this form doesn't employ the marker to; it presents the infinitive in the shape of the pure verb stem -« the zero- suffixed form».

The bare infinitive- «unmarked infinitive.»



It's used,(besides the various analytical forms), with :

1) modal verbs(except the modals ought and used).
2) with verbs of physical perceptions.
3) with the verbs -let, bid, make, help(with the latter- optionally).
4) with the verb know in the sense of " experience".
5) with a few verbal phrases of modal nature (had better, would rather, would have, etc.).
6) with the relative – inducive why.

THE GERUND

properties of the verb

properties of the noun

The verb-type combinability

- noun (the object of the action)
- modifying adverbs
- semi-functional predicator verbs (but other than modal)

the noun-type combinability

- finite notional verbs (as the object of the action)
- finite notional verbs (as the prepositional adjunct of various functions)
- finite notional verbs (as the subject of the action)
- nouns (as the prepositional adjunct of various functions)

The gerund, in the corresponding positional patterns, performs the functions of all the types of notional sentence-parts, i.e. the subject, the object, the predicative, the attribute, the adverbial modifier.

The gerund is a categorically changeable form; it distinguishes the two grammatical categories:

1. the aspective category of retrospective coordination (perfect in opposition);
2. the category of voice (passive in opposition).

The categorial paradigm of the gerund of the objective verb includes four forms:

the simple active - the perfect active;
the simple passive - the perfect passive.

E.g.: taking — having taken;
being taken — having been taken.

The gerundial paradigm of the non-objective verb, correspondingly, includes two forms:

E.g.: going — having gone.

The perfect forms of the gerund are used, as a rule, only in semantically strong positions, laying special emphasis on the meaningful categorial content of the form.

THE PARTICIPLE I

The verb-type combinability of the present participle is revealed in its being combined:

1. with nouns expressing the object of the action;
2. with nouns expressing the subject of the action (in semi-predicative complexes);
3. with modifying adverbs;
4. with auxiliary finite verbs (word-morphemes) in the analytical forms of the verb.

The self-positional present participle, in the proper syntactic arrangements, performs the functions of the predicative (occasional use, and not with the pure link be), the attribute, the adverbial modifier of various types.

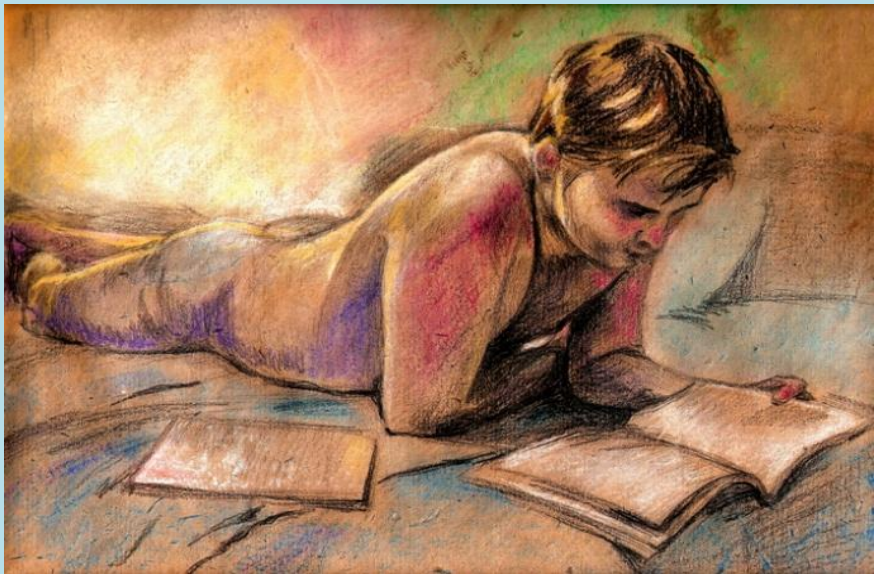
THE PARTICIPLE II

the properties of the verb + the properties of the adjective

the qualifying-processual name

The main *self-positional functions* of the past participle in the sentence are those of the attribute and the predicative. *Cf.:*

Moyra's *softened* look gave him a new hope. (Past participle attributive front-position)
The light is bright and inconveniently *placed* for reading. (Past participle predicative position)



The present participle, similar to the infinitive, can build up semi-predicative complexes of objective and subjective types.

The two groups of complexes, i.e. infinitival and present participial, may exist in parallel (e.g. when used with some verbs of physical perceptions), the difference between them lying in the aspective presentation of the process.

Cf.:

Nobody noticed *the scouts approach the enemy trench.* — Nobody noticed *the scouts approaching the enemy trench with slow, cautious, expertly calculated movements.* Suddenly *a telephone* was heard *to buzz,* breaking the spell. — *The telephone* was heard *vainly buzzing* in the study.

The past participle is capable of making up semi-predicative constructions of complex object, complex subject, as well as of absolute complex.

The past participial complex object is specifically characteristic with verbs of wish and oblique causality (have, get).

Cf.:

I want *the document prepared* for signing by 4 p.m. Will you have *my coat brushed up*, please?

Thank you for your attention.

literature:

- Блох М.Я. «Теоретическая грамматика английского языка » Для студентов филол. фак. ун-тов и фак. англ. яз. педвузов. М.: Высшая школа, 1983. — 383 с. Blokh M. Theoretical grammar of the English language.