

Lecture One

English Class – 4th Stage

The tense system

- There are three classes of verbs in English: auxiliary verbs, modal verbs, and full verbs.

- **1 Auxiliary verbs**

- The auxiliary verbs are be, do, and have.

- 1 Be

is used with verb + -ing to make continuous verb forms.

- You're lying. (present)
- They were reading. (past)
- I've been swimming. (present perfect)
- We'll be having dinner at 8 o'clock. (future)

- 2 Be

- Be is used with the past participle to make the passive.
- These books are printed in Hong Kong. (present)
- Where were you born? (past)
- The car's been serviced. (present perfect)
- The city had been destroyed. (past)

- **Do**
- **1 Do/does/did** are used in the Present Simple and the Past Simple.
- Do you smoke? (question)
- She doesn't understand. (negative)
- When did they arrive? (question)
- **2 Do/does/did** are used to express emphasis when there is no other auxiliary.
- I'm not interested in sport, but I do like tennis.
- 'If only he had a car!' 'He does have a car!'
- 'Why didn't you tell me?' 'I did tell you!'

- **Have**

- Have is used with the past participle to make perfect verb forms.
- Have you ever tried sushi? (present)
- My car had broken down before. (past)
- I'll have finished soon. (future)
- Having had lunch, we tidied up. (participle)

Have and Have got

- **1 Have** and **have got** are both used to express present possession.
 - Do you have any brothers or sisters? Yes, I do OR I have
 - have you got any brothers or sisters? Yes, I have OR I have got

- **2 Have to** can be replaced with have got to for present obligation.
 - Do you have to go now? Yes, I do. I have to
 - Have you got to go now? Yes, I have. I've got to

- **3 Only forms of have** (not have got) are used in all other tenses.
- I had my first car when I was nineteen.
- I've had this car for two years.
- I'll have a strawberry ice-cream, please.
- I'd had three cars by the time I was twenty.
- I'd like to have a pet.
- He loves having a sports car.

- **4 Have** (not have got) is used in many expressions.
 - have breakfast have a bath
 - have a barbecue have a good time
 - have fun have a word with someone
- **5 Have got** is generally more informal. It is used more in spoken English than in written English. However, they are often interchangeable.
- Have with the do/ does forms is more common in American English.

Other uses of auxiliary verbs

- **1 In question tags.**
- It's cold today, isn't it?
- You don't understand, do you?
- You haven't been to China, have you?
- **2 In short answers.**
- Yes or No alone can sound abrupt.
- 'Are you hungry?' 'No, I'm not.'
- 'Do you like jazz?' 'Yes, I do.'
- 'Did you have a nice meal?' 'Yes, we did.'
- 'Has she seen the mess?' 'No, she hasn't.'

- **3 In reply questions.**

- These are not real questions. They are used to show that the listener is paying attention and is interested.
- 'The test was awful.' 'Was it? What a pity.'
- 'I love burgers.' 'Do you? I hate them.'
- 'I've bought you a present.' 'Have you? How kind!'

- **2 Modal auxiliary verbs**

- These are the modal auxiliary verbs.
- Can, could, may, shall, might, will, would, should, must, ought to and need
- They are auxiliary verbs because they 'help' other verbs. They are different from be, do, and have because they have their own meaning.
- He must be at least 70. (= probability)
- You must try harder. (= obligation)
- Can you help me? (= request)
- She can't have got my letter. (= probability)
- I'll help you. (= willingness)

- **3 Full verbs**

- Full verbs are all the other verbs in the language.
- run, walk, eat, love, go, talk and write
- The verbs be, do, and have can also be used as full verbs with their own meanings.
- Have you been to school today?
- I want to be an engineer.
- I do a lot of business in Russia.
- The holiday did us a lot of good.
- Have you had enough to eat?

THANK YOU