



STRUCTURAL TYPES OF THE VERBS J. STEINBECK'S "THE GRAPES OF WRATH"

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ANNOTATION

The verb is a part of speech which denotes an action. The verb has the following grammatical categories: **person, number, tense, aspect, voice** and **mood**. These categories can be expressed by means of affixes, inner flexion (change of the root vowel) and by form words.

Verbs may be **transitive** and **intransitive**.

Verbs have **finite forms** which can be used as the predicate of a sentence and **non-finite forms** which cannot be used as the predicate of a sentence. . According to their **morphological structure** verbs are divided into:

- (a) **simple** (*read, live, hide, speak*); **derived**, i. e. having affixes (*magnify, fertilize, captivate, undo, decompose*);
- (c) **compound**, i. e. consisting of two stems (*daydream, browbeat*);
- (d) **composite**, consisting of a verb and a postposition of adverbial origin (*sit down, go away, give up*).

Keywords: non-finite forms, morphological structure, simple, compound, composite.

The postposition often changes the meaning of the verb with which it is associated. Thus, there are composite verbs whose meaning is different from the meaning of their components: *to give up* – бросать, прекращать; *to bring up* – воспитывать; *to do away* – ликвидировать.

There are other composite verbs in which the original meaning of its components is preserved: *to stand up, to come in, to go out, to put on*.

The **basic forms** of the verb in Modern English are: the **Infinitive**, the **Past Indefinite** and **Participle II**: *to speak – spoke – spoken*.

According to the way in which the Past Indefinite and Participle II are formed, verbs are divided into three groups: **regular** verbs, **irregular** verbs, and **mixed** verbs. **Regular verbs**. They form the Past Indefinite and Participle II by adding *-ed* to the stem of the verb, or only *-d* if the stem of the verb ends in *-e*.

to want – wanted to open – opened to unite – united to live – lived

verbs which change their final *-d* into *-t*. to send – sent – sent to build – built – built

(e) verbs which have the same form for the Infinitive, Past Indefinite and Participle II.

to put – put – put to set – set – set to shut – shut – shut

(f) verbs whose forms come from different stems.

to be – was, were – been - to go – went – gone

(g) special irregular verbs.

to have – had – had to make – made – made to do – did – done



(h) defective (anomalous) verbs.

can – could
must ought
may – might
will – would
shall – should

3. Mixed verbs. Their Past Indefinite is of the regular type, and their Participle II is of the irregular type:

to show – showed – shown to sow – sowed – sown

According to the syntactic function of verbs, which depends on the extent to which they retain, weaken or lose their meaning, they are divided into notional verbs, auxiliary verbs and link verbs.

1. Notional verbs are those which have a full meaning of their own and can be used without any additional words as a simple predicate. Here belong such verbs as *to write, to read, to speak, to know, to ask.*

Ricky surrounded her with great care and luxury. She knew what he was thinking.
(J.Steinbeck).

I don't recollect that he ever did anything, at least not in my time. (J.Steinbeck)

Their father... had come from Dorsetshire near the beginning of the century. (J.Steinbeck)

But all this time James was musing... (J.Steinbeck)

He would have succeeded splendidly at the Bar. (J.Steinbeck)

3. Link verbs are verbs which to a smaller or greater extent have lost their meaning and are used in the compound nominal predicate.

The house was too big. (J.Steinbeck)

The old face looked worn and hollow again. (J.Steinbeck)

Manson no longer felt despondent, but happy, elated, hopeful.
(J.Steinbeck)

In different contexts the same verb can be used as a notional verb and an auxiliary verb or a link verb:

...She turned her head sullenly away from me. (J.Steinbeck) (NOTIONAL VERB)

She... turned deadly pale. (LINK VERB) *No one was there to meet him.* (NOTIONAL VERB) *She was not a ten-year-old girl any more...* (LINK VERB) *This evening Bathsheba was unusually excited, her red cheeks and lips contrasting lustroously with her shadowy hair.* (J.Steinbeck)
(LINK VERB)

There is a special group of verbs which cannot be used without additional words, though they have a meaning of their own. These are modal verbs such as *can, may, must, ought,* etc.



*A slow swell of feeling choked the little boy's heart. Though he could not, dared not question the consul's strict command, its purpose lay beyond his comprehension. "We ought to have stayed in Italy," lie said. "We ought never **to have come** back to Manderley." (J.Steinbeck)*

The same verb in different contexts can be modal and auxiliary.

*I crouched against the wall of the gallery so that I should not **be seen**.* (J.Steinbeck) (AUXILIARY VERB)

I don't honestly think Lady Crowan was exaggerating when she said something should be done in your Honour. (J.Steinbeck).

These verbs relate to manners of motion characteristic of inanimate entities, that is, where there is no protagonist control on the part of the moving entity. A verb of this class, not listed by Levin, is *spiral* (Garrudo 1996). Another is *writhe*, "to move or proceed with twists and turns" (Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary. 10th ed.), as in the following example from a poem by Ted Hughes:

(6.2) *a motley viper that writhed out of the grave of your wardrobe* ("The Rag Rug" *New Yorker*

Aug. 1996)

In the absence of the directional phrase none of these verbs indicate the direction of motion. Many of those that describe motion around an axis take a restricted set of prepositions indicating the path of motion.

What Levin (1993) called *Run* verbs and Levin and Rappaport Hovav (1995: 282) later renamed agentive verbs of manner of motion is the largest and most important class. It encompasses verbs which describe the manners in which animate entities can move.

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