

Overview

The following represents an overview of what we have covered in the course so far. You should be sure that you know the definitions of the terminology so that you can *apply* them (you will not have to repeat them word for word).

Types of Morphemes

- Free/Bound
- Inflectional/Derivational

Parts of Speech

1. Form-Class Words (Nouns, Adjectives, Adverbs, Verbs)
 - The inflections of form-class words and their irregularities
 - Finite and Nonfinite Verbs
 - Transitive, Intransitive, and Linking Verbs
 - The distinction between tense, aspect, and voice
 - The names and forms of the different tense-aspect combinations
2. Structure-Class Words
 - The different types of Pronouns
 - Conjunctions
 - Prepositions
 - Auxiliaries
3. Phrase Types
 - The concepts of headwords and modifiers.
 - Noun Phrase (can form part of a Prepositional Phrase)
 - Adjective Phrase (can form part of a Noun Phrase)
 - Adverb Phrase (can form part of a Verb Phrase)
 - Prepositional Phrase (must function either as an Adjective Phrase or an Adverb Phrase)
 - Verb Phrase Types:
 - Main Verb Phrase: Must be finite (either the headword is finite, or one of its accompanying auxiliaries is)

- Nonfinite Verb Phrases

1. Infinitive Phrase (must function as a Noun Phrase, an Adjective Phrase, or an Adverb Phrase)
2. Past Participle Phrase (must function as an Adjective Phrase or an Adverb Phrase)
3. Present Participle Phrase (must function as an Adjective Phrase or an Adverb Phrase)
4. Gerund Phrase (present participle in form, but must function as a Noun Phrase)

Many people have trouble distinguishing types of verb phrases. Here is some advice that may help. Consider the following sentences:

1. I **ate** the cookies. *ate* is the headword of a main verb phrase. It is finite (past tense) and it is not functioning as modifier.
2. I **have eaten** the cookies *eaten* is the headword of a main verb phrase. It is finite (the auxiliary is a present tense form) and it is not functioning as modifier.

The fact that the verb phrase contains a past participle does not make it a past participle phrase. A past participle phrase must modify a noun phrase or another verb phrase.
3. I **am eating** the cookies *eating* is the headword of a main verb phrase. It is finite (the auxiliary is a present tense form) and it is not functioning as modifier.

The fact that the verb phrase contains a present participle does not make it a present participle phrase. A present participle phrase must modify a noun phrase or another verb phrase.
4. **Eating** the cookies is bad. *eating* is the headword of a gerund. *Eating the cookies* is functioning like a noun phrase (you can replace it with *something*).
5. The person **eating** the cookies is bad. *eating* is the headword of a present participle phrase. *Eating the cookies* modifies *the person*.
6. The cookies **eaten** yesterday were bad. *eaten* is the headword of a past participle phrase. *Eaten yesterday* modifies *the cookies*.

The above sentences use the verb *eat*, which is normally considered an irregular verb. The following sentences contain a regular verb. You will notice that you cannot distinguish a past tense from a past participle based solely on its form. You must look at its context in the sentence.

1. I **baked** the cookies. *baked* is the headword of a main verb phrase. It is finite (past tense) and it is not functioning as modifier.

2. I **have baked** the cookies *baked* is the headword of a main verb phrase. It is finite (the auxiliary is a present tense form) and it is not functioning as modifier.
3. I **am baking** the cookies *baking* is the headword of a main verb phrase. It is finite (the auxiliary is a present tense form) and it is not functioning as modifier.
4. **Baking** the cookies is bad. *baking* is the headword of a gerund. *Baking the cookies* is functioning like a noun phrase (you can replace it with *something*).
5. The person **baking** the cookies is bad. *baking* is the headword of a present participle phrase. *Baking the cookies* modifies *the person*.
6. The cookies **baked** yesterday were bad. *baked* is the headword of a past participle phrase. *Baked yesterday* modifies *the cookies*.

How do you tell whether *baked* is the headword of a main verb phrase or a past participle phrase? The following guidelines may be of use.

Verb Form	Phrase Type	Criteria
Past Tense	Main Verb Phrase	There is no auxiliary before the headword, and the verb phrase does not modify a Noun Phrase or another Verb Phrase.
Past Participle	Main Verb Phrase	There is a finite auxiliary before the headword, and the verb phrase does not modify a Noun Phrase or another Verb Phrase.
Past Participle	Past Participle Phrase	The verb phrase functions as a modifier of a Noun Phrase or another Verb Phrase. In this case, any preceding auxiliaries will be nonfinite (e.g. <i>Having baked the cookies, he served them hot.</i>)