

CORSO DI LAUREA IN COMUNICAZIONE INTERLINGUISTICA APPLICATA ALLE PROFESSIONI GIURIDICHE

Modulo di Lingua Inglese 1 2019-20

Lesson 2 - 23 March 2020

- Aspect – Mood – Voice – Conditional
- Forms of the Future

Aspect

Perfect

- We have finished the job.
- We had finished the job.
- We will have finished the job.

Function

- Action from a point in time which has an IMPACT on a subsequent time.

Aspect

Progressive

- We are finishing the job.
- We were finishing the job.
- We have been finishing the job.
- We had been finishing the job.
- We will be finishing the job.

Function

- Describing a continuous BACKGROUND context accompanying a foreground event
- Describing a future event (Present Continuous)

Mood

Indicative

- I recommend that he does this.
- I wish to know this.
- I wished to know that.

Function

- Stating facts, describing situations, expressing ideas (realis)

Mood

Subjunctive

- I recommend that he do this.
- Let it be.

- I wish I knew that.
- I wish I had known that

Function

- Expressing an unreality (irrealis), a wish to change, the realisation of a possibility

Mood

Imperative

- Stand up!
- Let's have lunch.

Function

- Order, request
 - Do this! Don't do that!
 - Give me a hand, please. Let me do it.
- Invitation, suggestion, recommendation, wish
 - Do come and visit us.
 - Let's try a different approach
 - Drive carefully!
 - Have a safe journey.

Voice

Active

- They will finish the job tomorrow.
- Somebody acquired the company in a secret deal.
- The company published the report last year

Passive

- The job will be finished tomorrow.
- The company was acquired in a secret deal.
- The report was published last year.

Function

- To shift emphasis to original object
- To express a proposition when the original subject is unknown or irrelevant

Conditional Forms (Present/Future)

If I have the money, I will go on holiday.

If I have the money, I go on holiday.

If I have received the money by then, I will go on holiday.

If you would wait, I would give you the money to go on holiday.

When I was a younger, if I had the money, I went on holiday

Function

- Non-hypothetical
- Presentation of a proposition in which the main clause is true if, and only if the If clause is true
- Verb times are determined by the intended meaning of the phrase

Conditional Forms (Present/Past)

If I had the money, I would/could/might go on holiday.

If I had had the money, I would/could/might have gone on holiday.

Function

- Hypothetical
- Referring either to the present/future or the past
- Not true now (present/future) or then (past)
- Logically possible (present/future) or impossible.
- Verb times are determined systematically

Future Tense

Tense (in English) consists of only two options, as mentioned above: past and present. For lack of a special future tense, the language must resort to a number of different constructions to express future time,

A Survey of Modern English, Pätzold K and Gramley S, Routledge, 2004

Expressing Future Time

"[T]he future tense has a different status from the other tenses. Rather than being a form of the verb, it is expressed by the modal auxiliary *will*. It's no accident that the future shares its syntax with words for necessity (*must*), possibility (*can, may, might*), and moral obligation (*should, ought to*), because what will happen is conceptually related to what must happen, what can happen, what should happen, and what we intend to happen. The word *will* itself is ambiguous between future tense and an expression of determination (as in *Sharks or no sharks, I will swim to Alcatraz*), and its homonyms show up in *free will, strong-willed, and to will something to happen*. The same ambiguity between the future and the intended can be found in another marker for the future tense, *going to* or *gonna*. It's as if the language is affirming the ethos that people have the power to make their own futures."

The Stuff of Thought., Pnker S, Viking, 2007

M Hammersley – 23 Mar 2020

Ways to refer to Future time

Simple Present:

The company board meets tomorrow at 3.00 pm. Interest is paid at the end of each month.

Function: a scheduled, often repeated event

Ways to refer to Future time

Be to/Be about to:

Twenty-five junior managers are to be promoted next week.

The company is about to make a major investment.

Function: realisation of a previous decision

Ways to refer to Future time

Present Continuous:

We are introducing new software in the planning department.

The managing director is arriving this afternoon.

Function: plans and arrangements

Ways to refer to Future time

Going to/Planning to/Intending to/Expecting to:

A new headquarters is going to be built next year.

We are planning to expand into Asia.

We are intending to recruit 100 new staff.

We are expecting to make a substantial profit.

Function: a programmed objective that is likely to happen

Ways to refer to Future time

Can, Could:

We can offer a 5% discount on bulk orders. The company could consider launching a new service.

Function: indication of level of probability of a future occurrence

Ways to refer to Future time

May, Might:

Prices may increase in the third quarter. Unemployment might decline towards the end of the year.

Function: indication of level of probability of a future occurrence

Ways to refer to Future time

Must:

Sales must expand in the coming year if we are to survive.

Function: indication of level of probability (obligation) of a future occurrence

Ways to refer to Future time

Shall, Should:

Shall we ask for a bank loan?

We should consider the possibility of reducing expenses.

Function: suggestions/recommendations for future action

Ways to refer to Future time

Will:

Next year, I think your contract will be renewed. I will contact you tomorrow.

We will offer better conditions.

Will you let me know what you think? If I can help, I will.

Function: predictions and promises about the future (probability); willingness

Next Lesson

Monday 30 March 2020 (15.00-16.30)

Preparation:

- Read Lambarth Chapter 4: Legislation
- What is the difference between 'Theft', 'Burglary' and 'Robbery'?