

# Introduction to the Study of Language

-Ling 1-  
Fall 2020

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Week 9 - December 2, 2020

# Announcements

- HW 6 (the last HW assignment)  
-closes on Sunday 12/6
- Analysis Paper 2 is due on Friday December 11 (11:59 PM)  
- work on it, do not wait until the very last days before the deadline

## Roadmap for today's class

- 60 minutes
- last 10/15 minutes: *your* time to ask me questions
  - orally by using the raise-hand button
  - by sending me a **private** message in the Zoom chat
  - questions can be on any topic of any live lecture

❖ How can we describe diachronic change?

## Latin future: synthetic type

- (1) a. **amabo** 'I will love'  
b. **dormies** 'you will sleep'

(1a) am – a – **b** – o

(1b) dorm – i – **e** – s

## Latin synthetic future

### Latin synthetic future

MITTEBIT 's/he will send', MORIAM 'I will die'

- (2) a. Epistulam Paulus **mittebit**.  
letter.ACC Paulo.NOM send. FUT.3SG  
'Paulo will send the/a letter.'
- b. Non omnis **moriar** (Horace)  
not all.NOM.MSG die.FUT.1SG  
'I shall not wholly die'

## Synthetic future: from Latin to Romance languages

- **Latin synthetic future was lost**
- innovative forms emerged
  - constructions involving the verb **HABEO** 'have'
  - became **analytic future forms**

E.G. **HABEO** 'have' + prepositions **AD/DE(-AB)** + infinitive  
- it expresses both **futurity** (*I'll go*) and **deonticity** (*I have to go*)

Question for you:

is there a conceptual similarity between *I'll go* and *I have to go*?

## Synthetic future in Romance

- Romance languages display **innovative future forms**
- It was formed by another construction involving the verb **HAVE**  
(very similar to HABEO + AD + AMARE)

infinitive	+	inflected forms of HAVE	
AMAR(E)	+	HA(BE)O	> <i>amerò</i> (standard Italian)
love.INF		have.1SG.PRS	'I will love'

### ➤ Diachronic change

AMAR(E)	+	HA(BE)O	(analytic)	>	<i>amerò</i>	(synthetic)
						
LATIN					ROMANCE (Italian)	

<p><b>Latin</b> (different stages)</p>	<p><b>ROMANCE</b> (modern)</p>
<p>AMABO 'I will love' DORMIAM 'I will sleep'</p>	<p>—</p>
<p>HABEO + AD / DE-AB / AD + PARABOLARE</p>	<p>C'ho da parlà con Gianni (Tuscan) there have.1SG to speak.INF with Gianni 'I have to talk/I will talk to Gianni.'</p>
<p>PARABOLARE+HA(BE)O</p>	<p>parlerò (Italian) parlerai (French) hablaré (Spanish) 'I will speak'</p>



## More examples of synthetic future in Romance

(3)

a. Elle **parlera** de moi. (French)  
she speak.FUT.3SG of me  
'She will talk about me.'

b. No **volverá**. (Spanish)  
not turn.FUT.3SG  
'S/he won't come back.'

c. **Escreveremos** uma carta. (Portuguese)  
write.FUT.1PL a letter  
'We'll write a letter.'

d. **Andremo** da Gianni domani. (standard Italian)  
go.FUT.1PL to Gianni tomorrow.  
'We'll go to Gianni's tomorrow.'

## Expression of future tense in Spanish

- Spanish exhibit 2 specific strategies to express the future tense

A- **synthetic future** (older form: infinitive+habeo)

(4) **cantaré** 'I will sing'

B- **analytic/periphrastic future** (more recent form)

verb 'GO' + preposition 'a' + infinitive

(5) **voy a cantar** 'I will sing' (lit. *I go to sing*)

## Expression of future tense in Spanish: periphrastic future

### **Analytic/periphrastic future**

verb 'go' + preposition 'a' + infinitive

(5) **Voy a cantar** 'I will sing'

❖ GO evolves from the original meaning in Latin into a mark of future tense (*will*)

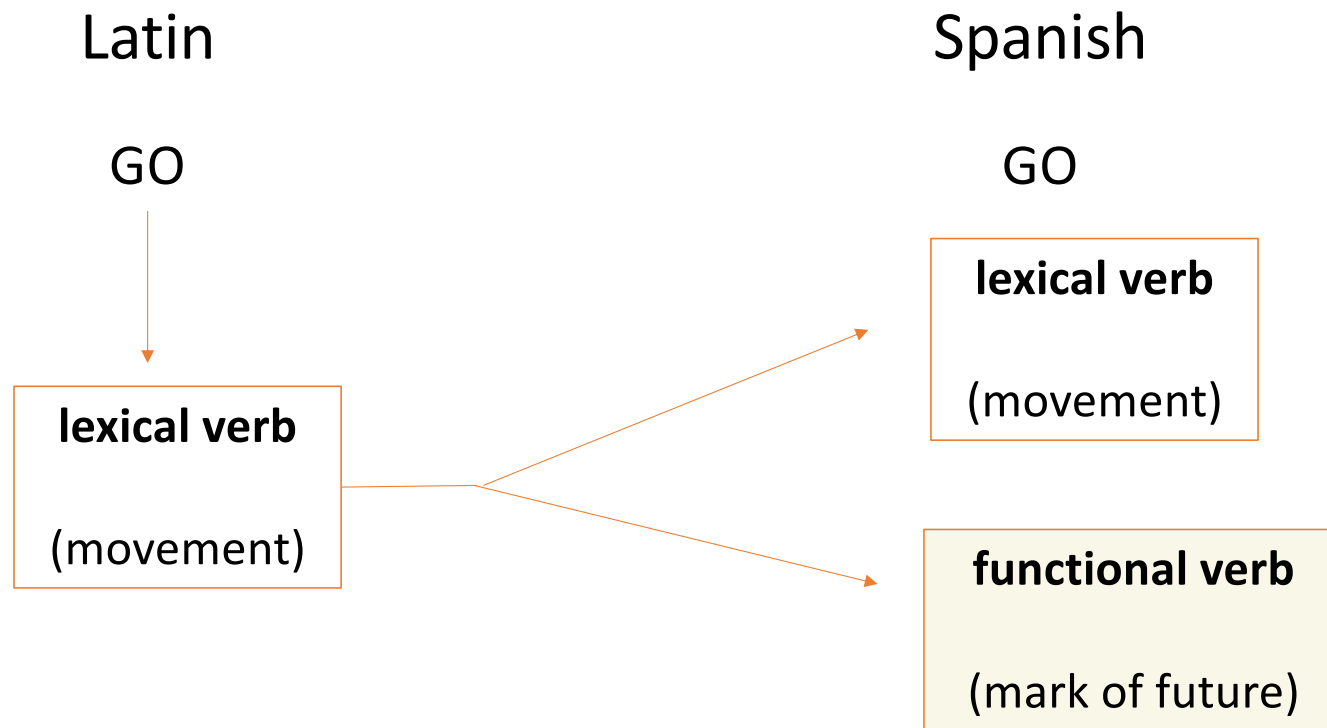
## Diachrony of periphrastic future in Spanish: from **GO** to **WILL**

Sp. **Voy** < Lat. VADO 'I go'

(highly irregular verb, infinitive 'ir')

- In Latin VADO was a verb of movement
    - full lexical meaning
  - In **contemporary Spanish** 'voy' is both a verb of movement and a **functional verb**
- (6)    a.    Voy a New York este verano.                      **(movement)**  
             go.1SG to NY this summer
- b.    Juan **va a limpiar** el baño.                      **(futurity)**  
             Juan goes to clean the bathroom

## Diachrony of periphrastic future in Spanish: from **GO** to **WILL**



## Diachrony of periphrastic future in Spanish: from **GO** to **WILL**

GO

**lexical** verb  
(movement)

**functional** verb  
(mark of future)

lexical content of  
the movement verb  
gest weakened  
(**bleached** away)

**non-factuality**  
value was kept

lexical value lost;  
only **non-factuality**  
and **futurity** is  
expressed

## Diachronic Table: expression of future tense in Spanish

LATIN	Early Spanish - Stage I	Spanish - Stage II	today's Spanish - Stage III	Change in meaning
<b>CANTABO</b> 'I will sing'	*	*	*	
<b>*VADO AD CANTARE</b>	'I go sing / I go to sing'	<b>voy a cantar</b> 'I go sing'	<b>voy a cantar</b> 'I will sing'	movement > future

# Conclusions

➤ understanding the diachronic development of future tense expressions in Spanish requires understanding:

(a) the ultimate meaning of the elements involved  
(**semantics**)

(b) the meaning evolution = **semantic change**



## A quick comparison with English for you

- Is English **WILL** comparable with Latin/Romance 'have (to)' and Spanish 'voy (a)'?
  - if so, **how**?
- Can you think of **another language** that can be added to the comparison?

## EVALS now open

- Exercise **your right** of expressing your opinion
  - **Help** your instructors

I will see you next week (12/9, last live lecture)-  
what can we do in the meanwhile?

- Watch recorded lectures by Russel Schuh
- Do the readings (crucial for your preparation to the Final!)
- Finish HW 6
- Work on Analysis Paper 2 (due on 12/11)
- Experimental Credit SONA: closes on 12/10

**STAY SAFE !**

- Tips on how to proceed **successfully** every week?

I suggest you take the following **6 steps** in this order:

1. Go through the **readings**.
2. Watch the recorded **lectures** and take detailed notes.
3. Take a look at the **quizzes** to see if you understand all the questions, before completing them.
4. Attend the **live** lecture.
5. Attend the live **discussion** sections.
6. Complete and submit your **assignments**.