



NON-FINITE VERBS

NON FINITE VERBS are those verbs which do not change according to change in tense, number and person of subject.

FINITE VERBS vs. NON FINITE VERBS

There are mainly two types of verbs in English – finite and non-finite.

Finite verbs change their forms when there is a change in the number or person of the subject. Finite verbs also have different forms in different tenses.

Non-finite verbs do not change their form when the number or person of the subject changes. There are mainly three types of non-finite verbs: infinitives, gerunds and participles.

Those verbs which change according to tense (time), person (1st, 2nd, 3rd) and number (singular/plural).

e.g I want to attempt this.

(1st) (do)

He wants to attempt this.

(3rd) (does) → present

He wanted to attempt this.

(did) → past

They want to attempt this.

(do) → plural

Those verbs which do not change according to change in time, person and number.

e.g. She is going away.

(3rd) (singular)

They are going away.

(3rd) (plural)

you are going away

(2nd) (plural) → (present)

I was going away.

(1st) (singular) → past

INFINITIVE

TO + V1 – INFINITIVE

e.g. He wants to teach you.



He wanted to teach you

V1 – BARE INFINITIVE (without to)

e.g. He can drive car.

He could drive car

GERUND

V1 + ing ; when used as in noun form is called GERUND.

V1 + ing (noun) – GERUND

e.g. Swimming is good exercise.

He was swimming in the pool.

Swimming in the pool, he drowned.

e.g. Laughing on the floor he fell down.

Laughing is a good medicine.

He was laughing during the lecture.

PARTICIPLE PRESENT PARTICIPLE

V1 + ing ; when used as in verb form is called PRESENT PARTICIPLE.

V1 + ing (verb) – PRESENT PARTICIPLE

PAST PARTICIPLE –V3

Get got gotten/got

(V1) (V2) (V3) (V3)

PRESENT PERFECT PARTICIPLE

Having + V3

e.g. Having finished my breakfast I left my place for office.