

► Notes for course 02

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[illegible]

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English

1. Verbs

Definition: A verb is any action (walk), occurrence (happen), or state of being (be).

A word indicating action or a state.

Categories of verbs: there are different types of verbs corresponding closely to different types of Object and Complement.

1- Extensive verbs can be either **transitive or intransitive**. They are intransitive if they don't permit any of the four objects and complement types i.e. Od, Oi, Cs, Co

E.g. It (s) rained (v) steadily (A) all day (A).

1-a- **Transitive verbs** take a direct object. Some in addition, permit an indirect object. A few verbs take an object complement.

2- **Stative verbs:** Some verbs are not usually used in the continuous/ progressive forms in certain meanings, especially when the verbs have a meaning of knowledge, sense of perception or of emotion. When these verbs show a state of condition rather than an activity or an event, they can be called stative.

E.g. believe, feel, recognize. (Knowledge and mental activity)

hear, see, sound, smell (sense of perception)

3- **Dynamic verbs:** Dynamic verbs are the ones which are fitted to indicate action, activity, and temporary or changing conditions.

E.g. His brother **grew** happier.

Negative form

- The simple present tense: third person singular does not/ doesn't+ infinitive; other persons do not/ don't+ infinitive.
- The simple past tense negative for all persons is did not/ didn't+ infinitive.
- Contractions are usual in speech
 - *He does not/ doesn't answer letters.
 - *They do not/ don't live here
 - *I did not/ didn't phone her.
- The negative for all other tenses is formed by putting not after the auxiliary.

*He has not/ hasn't finished / *He would/ wouldn't come.

Interrogative form

Simple present tense interrogative: do I / you/ we/ they + infinitive

Does he/ she/ it + infinitive

e.g. Does Peter enjoy party?

Simple past tense interrogative: did + subject+ infinitive.

e.g. Did he enjoy Ann's party?

a- Wh –questions : the wh- questions (which, when, why, where, what, who, whose and how) are a special set of pro- forms used in questions to ask for the identification of subject, object, complement, or an adverbial of a sentence.

e.g. They (1) make him (2) the chairman (3) every year (4).

(1) **Who** makes him the chairman every year?

(2) **Whom** do they make the chairman every year?

(3) **What** do they make him every year?

(4) **When** do they make him the chairman?

b- Yes- no questions: Besides wh questions, which elicit information on particular parts of a sentence, there are questions which seek a yes or no response in relation to the validity of an entire predication.

(1) Is the girl now a student?

(2) Did John search the room carefully?

Interrogative negative form

Isn't the girl a student? OR Is the girl not a student?

Didn't John search the room? OR Did John not search the room?

Hasn't he given the girl an apple? OR Has he not given the girl an apple?

Regular and irregular verbs

John searched the big room and the small one. (Regular verb)

I found him working. (Irregular verb).

The text :

The Robots Are Coming

By John Lanchester

For many years the problem with robots has been that computers are very good at things we find difficult but very bad at things we find easy. They are brilliant at chess but terrible at the cognitive skills we take for granted, one of the most important being something scientists call SLAM, for ‘simultaneous localisation and mapping’: the ability to look at a space and see it and know how to move through it, all simultaneously, and with good recall. That, and other skills essential to advanced robotics, is something computers are useless at. A robot chess player can thrash the best chess player in the world, but can’t (or couldn’t) match the motor and perceptual skills of a one-year-old baby. A famous demonstration of the principle came in 2006, when scientists at Honda staged a public unveiling of their amazing new healthcare robot, the Asimo. Asimo is short (4’3”) and white with a black facemask and a metal backpack. It resembles an unusually small astronaut. Asimo advances towards a staircase and starts climbing while turning his face towards the audience as if to say, with a Bender from Futurama, ‘check out my shiny metal body’. He goes up two steps and then falls over. Tittering ensues. It is evident that a new day in robotics has not yet dawned.

‘The robots will only eat all the jobs if we decide to let them,’ This is surely mistaken. We might as well say: ‘Devastating climate change will only happen if we decide to let it.’ There seem to be psychological forces we cannot control that prevent collective action, even when we are aware of the problems that are about to clobber us (and of their solutions). The likely consequences of developments in artificial intelligence and robotics become clearer by the day, but the likelihood of governments doing anything to address them is close to zero. Why? it nails that the main reason is money. Just as preventing climate change means spending trillions today for no immediate profit, so machine intelligence promises more money (to a few) than Croesus could have dreamed of.

Questions

Text comprehension:

- Give another title to the text.
- What was the most challenging advanced robots even after creating a robot chess player that can thrash any chess master of the world?
- “The robots will only eat all the jobs...” is that true? justify your response.

Language mastering:

- Give the synonym of these word: intelligent, defeat.
- Give the antonym of these world: stand up, probably.

Translation

- Translate the following words into French : chess, perceptual skills.
- Put the following words in the right type of vowels: player, towards, out, good, look, take, bad.

Short	Long	diphthongs	Triphthongs