

# A Corpus-based Analysis of the Auxiliary Verb HAVE in a corpus of Adult ODL Learners' Writing

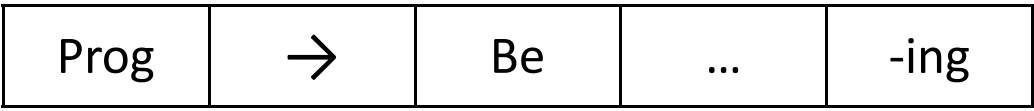
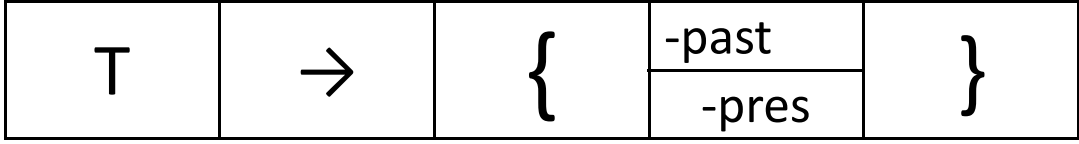
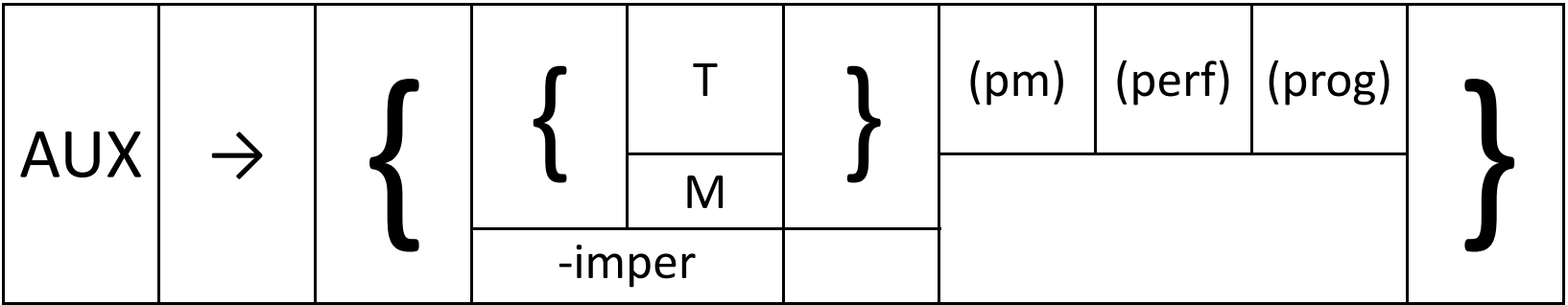
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# What are Auxiliary verbs

Subject	Auxiliary Verbs				Main Verb
	Modal	HAVE	BE		
The ship			IS	(prog)	Sinking
		Had		(V+ed)	Sunk
		has	been (V+en)	(V+ed)	Sunk
	must	have	been (V+en)	(prog)	Sinking
	may	have	been (V+en)	being	Sunk

Adapted from Quirk, et al. (1985:159)

# The Phrase-Structure rule



What I found when I analysed HAVE in the corpus?

L1	46411		
		%	Order
	HAVE	67.26%	
TO		7.60%	1
WE		5.99%	2
THAT		5.73%	3
MAY		4.96%	4
THEY		4.78%	5
NOT		3.41%	6
CRIMES		2.54%	7
YOU		2.21%	8
WHO		2.11%	9
INTERNET		2.09%	10
THERE		2.04%	11
CRIME		1.86%	12
AND		1.51%	13
MUST		1.47%	14
SHOULD		1.25%	15
ALSO		1.21%	16
WILL		1.19%	17
COUNTRIES		1.15%	18
WHICH		1.13%	19
I		0.97%	20
CASES		0.94%	21
CRIMINALS		0.94%	22
COMPUTERS		0.92%	23
CAN		0.92%	24
STATES		0.88%	25
PEOPLE		0.86%	26
USERS		0.79%	27
HACKERS		0.75%	28
MALAYSIA		0.73%	29
COULD		0.67%	30
POLICE		0.64%	31
WOULD		0.61%	32
OR		0.58%	33
BANKS		0.50%	34
ONLY		0.47%	35
WEBSITES		0.44%	36
MANY		0.43%	37

# HAVE

- In L1 position, only two occurrences with high probability of non-grammatical construction. Both can however still be grammatical if both constituents function in the postmodifier position of Noun phrases.
- All occurrences in the R1 position do not indicate high probability of nongrammatical construction

Centre	Word	R1
46411		Occure
HAVE		2738
1	BEEN	836
2	A	365
3	TO	334
4	THE	205
5	BECOME	117
6	MADE	112
7	ALSO	729
8	AN	622
9	NOT	601
10	ACCESS	572
11	THEIR	483
12	COME	446
13	NO	422
14	FINANCIAL	367
15	INCREASED	354
16	ALREADY	318
17	EXISTED	316
18	IN	304
19	INTERNATIONAL	286
20	SEEN	269
21	RECEIVED	254
22	IMPACTED	249
23	TAKEN	244
24	DIFFERENT	219
25	SUCH	212
26	IT	209
27	FORCED	201

Word	L1	Centre
		9808
HAD		43.87%
THEY	523	5.33%
PARTY	501	5.11%
THAT	479	4.88%
MALAYSIA	326	3.32%
HE	287	2.93%
WHICH	243	2.48%
WHO	218	2.22%
FIRM	215	2.19%
I	214	2.18%
VERNMENT	184	1.88%
ALSO	141	1.44%
CRIMES	133	1.36%
IT	133	1.36%
WEBSITE	128	1.31%
SHE	128	1.31%
AND	125	1.27%
CRIME	115	1.17%
PARTMENT	106	1.08%
CASES	104	1.06%

# HAD

No occurrences in both L1 and R1 positions do not show constructions that that most probably nongrammatical

N	Word	R1
	HAD	9808
1	BEEN	1925
2	INTENTION	505
3	A	435
4	TO	325
5	RECEIVED	265
6	GROWN	231
7	INCREASED	229
8	ALSO	209
9	THE	160
10	CAUSED	122
11	REPORTED	114
12	IN	106
13	ONE	101

Word	L1	Centre
HAS		40554
		67%
IT	2821	6.96%
THAT	2437	6.01%
CRIME	1929	4.76%
INTERNET	1541	3.80%
MALAYSIA	1512	3.73%
ACTUALLY	1386	3.42%
GOVERNMENT	1266	3.12%
AND	985	2.43%
WHICH	900	2.22%
LEGISLATION	622	1.53%
COMPUTER	602	1.48%
ALSO	591	1.46%
THIS	555	1.37%
THERE	539	1.33%
TECHNOLOGY	522	1.29%
LAW	482	1.19%
CRIMINAL	459	1.13%
WHO	446	1.10%
ALREADY	390	0.96%
USA	371	0.91%
COUNTRY	353	0.87%
SYSTEM	324	0.80%
IC3	320	0.79%
TERM	307	0.76%
CRIMES	304	0.75%
YEARS	277	0.68%
STRANGER	255	0.63%
ONE	215	0.53%
REPORT	210	0.52%
WORLD	205	0.51%
HACKER	202	0.50%
WEBSITE	201	0.50%
PERSON	188	0.46%
OBESITY	183	0.45%
FBI	183	0.45%
HE	181	0.45%
SERVER	168	0.41%
ACTIVITY	166	0.41%
FORCEMENT	161	0.40%
WHAT	161	0.40%
FRAUD	159	0.39%
ACT	153	0.38%
STATES	153	0.38%
SPACES	149	0.37%
NETWORK	148	0.36%
CRIMINAL	146	0.36%
ADVANCED	137	0.34%
ASSOCIATION	136	0.34%
SECURITY	128	0.32%
INFORMATION	123	0.30%
ACTS	122	0.30%
SYSTEMS	120	0.30%
COURT	117	0.29%
USERS	115	0.28%
PHOTOGRAPHY	109	0.27%
TIME	108	0.27%
STATE	104	0.26%
JUSTICE	104	0.26%
MINISTRY	103	0.25%

# HAS

- No occurrences in both L1 and R1 positions do not show constructions that that most probably nongrammatical

N	Word	Centre
1	HAS	40554
		74%
6	BEEN	20.91%
22	BECOME	5.54%
2	THE	4.12%
4	A	4.11%
5	TO	3.24%
25	ALSO	2.97%
43	INCREASED	2.12%
58	SHOWN	1.65%
44	MADE	1.57%
79	SUCCEEDED	1.54%
28	ITS	1.31%
53	NOT	1.10%
80	TAKEN	1.09%
96	CREATED	0.98%
101	RECEIVED	0.91%
63	SET	0.78%
40	NO	0.76%
152	DOMESTIC	0.76%
64	GIVEN	0.76%
154	LED	0.73%
45	MANY	0.73%
174	BROKEN	0.70%
110	SAID	0.70%
183	TAMPARED	0.68%
118	BROUGHT	0.66%
86	HOWEVER	0.62%
208	STRUGGLED	0.60%
171	CLEARLY	0.57%
212	RESULTED	0.55%
83	ALREADY	0.54%
207	CAUSED	0.53%
259	EMERGED	0.48%
165	UNIQUE	0.46%
30	AN	0.45%
235	PUT	0.45%
132	CHANGED	0.42%
243	COME	0.42%
279	NOTED	0.42%
273	PROVIDED	0.38%
356	VASTLY	0.38%
266	HAPPENED	0.38%
66	DEFINED	0.37%
310	GROWN	0.36%
9	IN	0.33%
411	NOWHERE	0.33%
48	MORE	0.33%
309	INTRODUCED	0.31%
421	GONE	0.31%
442	ACTED	0.31%
425	OPENED	0.30%
449	WORKED	0.30%
262	DEVELOPED	0.29%
359	EXPANDED	0.29%
382	PROVEN	0.29%
447	CONVICTED	0.27%
441	OCCURRED	0.26%
451	RISEN	0.26%
445	NEVER	0.26%
263	RECENTLY	0.26%
102	REPORTED	0.25%
452	EVOLVED	0.25%

Word	L1	Centre
HAVING		
3094		46%
BY	423	13.67%
OF	284	9.18%
IS	204	6.59%
PERSON	146	4.72%
WITHOUT	125	4.04%
ARE	124	4.01%
HOWEVER	116	3.75%

# HAVING

No occurrences in both L1 and R1 positions do not show constructions that that most probably nongrammatical

N	Word	R1	
1	HAVING		
	3094		48
1	A	438	14
2	THE	220	7
3	THESE	176	5
4	TO	142	4
5	CUSTODY	136	4
6	LAWS	135	4
7	THEIR	127	4
8	BEEN	111	3



# What does this mean in relation to the corpus as a whole?

- The collocations of HAVE and its morphological variations show the following:
  - A. Significant occurrences of HAVE and variant auxiliary verbs show probable grammatical usage. Above 100 occurrences regarded as significant.
  - B. Occurrences listed in Collocations show minimal probable ungrammatical construction.

# What does this suggest about the students mastery of English?

- The learners / students appear to be able to use the auxiliary verb HAVE in the form of HAVE, HAD, HAS, and HAVING properly.

# What is this corpus made of?

- The corpus analysed for this paper comprises 4920 assignment papers which has been chosen from about 29000 assignment papers.
- The papers are chosen after removing papers that;
  - Contain programming characters
  - Bugs
- This is learner corpus: comprising written work by students
- This is a corpus-based analysis (based on corpus findings) rather than a corpus-driven analysis (totally built on basis of corpus analysis)

# How is this significant to ELT in general?

- The learners in question seem to have learnt the use of the HAVE auxiliary verb.

# How is this significant to ELT in OUM?

- OUM's adult learners appear to have a relatively good command of the use of the Auxiliary verbs HAVE.

# Maybe we are not teaching adults the way they should be taught?

- Suggestion:
  - We should employ overt teaching of syntax and grammar
  - Use authentic texts
  - Use authentic situations

# References

1. Quirk, R., Greenbaum, S., Leech, G., & Svartvik, J. & Crystal, D. (1985). *A comprehensive grammar of the English language*. London: Longman.
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3. Celce-Murcia, M., & Larsen-Freeman, D. (2011). *The grammar book: an ESL/EFL teachers course*. Boston: Heinle.