

<Reports on the Third Annual Meeting of the
Tsukuba English Linguistic Society> The Syntax
of Be and Have : AUX or Main Verb

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journal or publication title	Tsukuba English Studies
volume	2
page range	205-206
year	1983-08-31
URL	http://hdl.handle.net/2241/7440

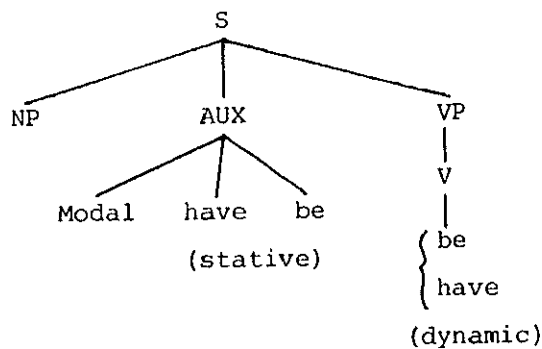
The Syntax of Be and Have:

AUX or Main Verb

Nobuhiro Kaga

In this thesis, I have proposed a new English auxiliary system like (1):

(1)



This analysis is distinguished from other phrase structure approaches in the following three respects: this analysis (i) contains no rule of re-structuring be and have, (ii) divides be and have into two groups on the basis of whether they are "stative" or "dynamic", and (iii) does not refer to descriptive categories of be and have such as 'progressive', 'passive', 'perfective', etc.

This analysis enables quite simple descriptions of many syntactic constructions and rules. For instance, consider the following VP Deletion sentences whose grammaticality is curiously distinct among them:

- (2) John must be honest and Bill { a. must ____, too.
b. must be ____, too.

- (3) John can't be a genius and Mary $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{a. *can't ______,} \\ \text{either.} \\ \text{b. can't be ______,} \\ \text{either.} \end{array} \right.$
- (4) Can I be frank with you? - Yes, you $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{a. must ______.} \\ \text{b. *must be ______.} \end{array} \right.$

Given the auxiliary system (1), we can account straightforwardly for these data in terms of the simplest possible VP Deletion rule (5):

- (5) VP Deletion: Delete VP.

That is, in the application of VP Deletion, the dynamic be must be deleted while the stative be may not.

The rule of "Do-Supporting" is formulated as (6) under the present analysis:

- (6) Do-Support:

$$\begin{array}{l}
 X - [\phi]_{\text{AUX}} - [Y]_{\text{VP}} - Z \\
 \implies X - [\text{do}]_{\text{AUX}} - [Y]_{\text{VP}} - Z
 \end{array}$$

The rule (6) accounts automatically for the following data:

- (7) a. *You don't must go.
 b. *Do you have seen George?
 c. *I don't often be sick.

In the thesis, besides VP Deletion and Do-Support, VP Fronting, Imperative Sentences, Perception Verb Complements, To-Be Deletion, and Right Node Raising have been discussed from the viewpoint of our new auxiliary system.