Non-finite Verb Phrases as Verb Complements

Yvonne Krajčová

Tomas Bata University in Zlín
Faculty of Humanities

Univerzita Tomáše Bati ve Zlíně
Fakulta humanitních studií
Ústav moderních jazyků a literatur
akademický rok: 2015/2016

ZADÁNÍ BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE
(PROJEKTU, UMĚLECKÉHO DÍLA, UMĚLECKÉHO VÝKONU)

Jméno a příjmení:	**Yvonne Krajčová**
Osobní číslo:	**H13454**
Studijní program:	**B7310 Filologie**
Studijní obor:	**Anglický jazyk pro manažerskou praxi**
Forma studia:	**prezenční**
Téma práce:	**Neurčité tvary slovesných frází ve funkci doplňku slovesa**

Zásady pro vypracování:

Studium literatury (slovesné kategorie, určité a neurčité formy slovesa, subkategorizace)
Teoretické zpracování tématu
Sběr a analýza dat z korpusů: British National Corpus (BNC) a Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA)
Stanovení výsledků a závěrů

Rozsah bakalářské práce:
Rozsah příloh:
Forma zpracování bakalářské práce: **tištěná/elektronická**

Seznam odborné literatury:

Carnie, Andrew. 2013. Syntax: A Generative Introduction. 3rd ed. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell.

Huddleston, Rodney, and Geoffrey K. Pullum. 2005. A Student's Introduction to English Grammar. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Quirk, Randolph, et al. 1985. A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language. London: Longman.

Tallerman, Maggie. 2005. Understanding Syntax. 2nd ed. London: Hodder Education.

Yadurajan, K. S. 2014. Modern English Grammar: Structure, Meanings, and Usage. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Vedoucí bakalářské práce: **Mgr. Dagmar Machová**
                                   Ústav moderních jazyků a literatur
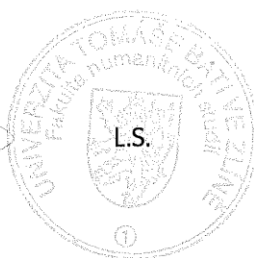Datum zadání bakalářské práce: **13. listopadu 2015**
Termín odevzdání bakalářské práce: **6. května 2016**

Ve Zlíně dne 10. prosince 2015

L.S.

doc. Ing. Anežka Lengálová, Ph.D.   PhDr. Katarína Nemčoková, Ph.D.
            děkanka   *ředitelka ústavu*

PROHLÁŠENÍ AUTORA BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

Beru na vědomí, že

- odevzdáním bakalářské práce souhlasím se zveřejněním své práce podle zákona č. 111/1998 Sb. o vysokých školách a o změně a doplnění dalších zákonů (zákon o vysokých školách), ve znění pozdějších právních předpisů, bez ohledu na výsledek obhajoby [1)];
- beru na vědomí, že bakalářská práce bude uložena v elektronické podobě v univerzitním informačním systému dostupná k nahlédnutí;
- na moji bakalářskou práci se plně vztahuje zákon č. 121/2000 Sb. o právu autorském, o právech souvisejících s právem autorským a o změně některých zákonů (autorský zákon) ve znění pozdějších právních předpisů, zejm. § 35 odst. 3 [2)];
- podle § 60 [3)] odst. 1 autorského zákona má UTB ve Zlíně právo na uzavření licenční smlouvy o užití školního díla v rozsahu § 12 odst. 4 autorského zákona;
- podle § 60 [3)] odst. 2 a 3 mohu užít své dílo – bakalářskou práci - nebo poskytnout licenci k jejímu využití jen s předchozím písemným souhlasem Univerzity Tomáše Bati ve Zlíně, která je oprávněna v takovém případě ode mne požadovat přiměřený příspěvek na úhradu nákladů, které byly Univerzitou Tomáše Bati ve Zlíně na vytvoření díla vynaloženy (až do jejich skutečné výše);
- pokud bylo k vypracování bakalářské práce využito softwaru poskytnutého Univerzitou Tomáše Bati ve Zlíně nebo jinými subjekty pouze ke studijním a výzkumným účelům (tj. k nekomerčnímu využití), nelze výsledky bakalářské práce využít ke komerčním účelům.

Prohlašuji, že
- elektronická a tištěná verze bakalářské práce jsou totožné;
- na bakalářské práci jsem pracoval samostatně a použitou literaturu jsem citoval. V případě publikace výsledků budu uveden jako spoluautor.

Ve Zlíně ....

....

1

(2) Disertační, diplomové, bakalářské a rigorózní práce odevzdané uchazečem k obhajobě musí být též nejméně pět pracovních dnů před konáním obhajoby zveřejněny k nahlížení veřejnosti v místě určeném vnitřním předpisem vysoké školy nebo není-li tak určeno, v místě pracoviště vysoké školy, kde se má konat obhajoba práce. Každý si může ze zveřejněné práce pořizovat na své náklady výpisy, opisy nebo rozmnoženiny.

(3) Platí, že odevzdáním práce autor souhlasí se zveřejněním své práce podle tohoto zákona, bez ohledu na výsledek obhajoby.

2) zákon č. 121/2000 Sb. o právu autorském, o právech souvisejících s právem autorským a o změně některých zákonů (autorský zákon) ve znění pozdějších právních předpisů, § 35 odst. 3:

(3) Do práva autorského také nezasahuje škola nebo školské či vzdělávací zařízení, užije-li nikoli za účelem přímého nebo nepřímého hospodářského nebo obchodního prospěchu k výuce nebo k vlastní potřebě dílo vytvořené žákem nebo studentem ke splnění školních nebo studijních povinností vyplývajících z jeho právního vztahu ke škole nebo školskému či vzdělávacího zařízení (školní dílo).

3) zákon č. 121/2000 Sb. o právu autorském, o právech souvisejících s právem autorským a o změně některých zákonů (autorský zákon) ve znění pozdějších právních předpisů, § 60 Školní dílo:

(1) Škola nebo školské či vzdělávací zařízení mají za obvyklých podmínek právo na uzavření licenční smlouvy o užití školního díla (§ 35 odst. 3. Odpírá-li autor takového díla udělit svolení bez vážného důvodu, mohou se tyto osoby domáhat nahrazení chybějícího projevu jeho vůle u soudu. Ustanovení § 35 odst. 3 zůstává nedotčeno.

(2) Není-li sjednáno jinak, může autor školního díla své dílo užít či poskytnout jinému licenci, není-li to v rozporu s oprávněnými zájmy školy nebo školského či vzdělávacího zařízení.

(3) Škola nebo školské či vzdělávací zařízení jsou oprávněny požadovat, aby jim autor školního díla z výdělku jím dosaženého v souvislosti s užitím díla či poskytnutím licence podle odstavce 2 přiměřeně přispěl na úhradu nákladů, které na vytvoření díla vynaložily, a to podle okolností až do jejich skutečné výše; přitom se přihlédne k výši výdělku dosaženého školou nebo školským či vzdělávacím zařízením z užití školního díla podle odstavce 1.

ABSTRAKT

Tato bakalářská práce se zabývá neurčitými tvary slovesných frází ve funkci doplňku slovesa. Neurčité slovesné fráze mohou být tvořeny holým infinitivem, participiem minulým, infinitivem s to a gerundiem. Tvary neurčitých slovesných frází záleží na sledovaném slovesu. Má bakalářská práce se zabývá slovesy, která mohou být použita s infinitivem s to nebo s gerundiem, se změnou nebo beze změny významu. Pomocí Britského národního korpusu a Korpusu současné americké angličtiny zkoumá výskyt infinitiva s to a gerundia ve funkci doplňku sloves.

Klíčová slova: neurčité tvary slovesné fráze, sloveso, infinitiv s to, gerundium, neurčitý tvar doplňku slovesa

ABSTRACT

This bachelor thesis deals with non-finite verb phrases as verb complements. Non-finite complementation can be done by bare infinitive, past participle, to-infinitive and gerund. It depends on preceding verb what non-finite complementation to use. My bachelor thesis focuses on verbs which can be followed by either to-infinitive or gerund, with or without change in meaning. Using British National Corpus and Corpus of Contemporary American English, it finds out the frequencies of to-infinitive or gerund non-finite complementation.

Keywords: non-finite verb phrase, verb, to-infinitive, gerund, non-finite verb complementation

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude to my supervisor Mgr. Dagmar Machová Ph.D., for her valuable advice, for her time and patience with my bachelor thesis. Secondly, I would like to thank my parents who always support me during my studies. Finally, I would also like to thank my friends and my boyfriend for their support and patience.

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

This thesis is called non-finite verb phrases as verb complements and as such deals with non-finite complementation of certain verbs. It is divided into theoretical and practical part. Firstly, in theoretical part is described the definition and brief classification of the verbs. The second chapter is focused on grammatical categories which are person and number, aspect, voice, mood and tense. Each of these categories is further characterized and described. The third chapter deals with syntactic structures such as adjective phrase, noun phrase, preposition phrase and verb phrase which is furthermore divided into finite and non-finite verb phrase. Last but not least, the fourth chapter describes the verb valency which can be intransitive, transitive or ditransitive. Finally, the last chapter of this thesis deals with non-finite complementation. This chapter is further subdivided into categories of verbs with certain pattern.

The practical part is firstly focused on methodology of the research where it is stated how the whole research was processed. Secondly, the practical part is based on the research from British National Corpus and Corpus of Contemporary American English. This bachelor thesis focuses on verbs which after certain non-finite complementation can have a change in meaning or no change in meaning. The aim of the bachelor thesis is to find out the frequencies of certain non-finite complementation of certain verbs, both BNC and COCA.

I.   THEORY

1 DEFINITION AND CLASSIFICATION OF VERBS

Verb refers to "action of some kind, physical or mental". (Yadurajan 2013, 109) The verb is the most "central" element of a clause. (Quirk et al. 2004, 50) Due to the fact that a verb does not usually occur in initial or final position, the position is rather medial. Moreover English language is considered as a "fixed word-order language" which means that clause elements such as a verb, a subject or an object have a certain position in the sentence. (Quirk et al. 2004, 51).

Verbs can be lexical or auxiliary. Lexical verbs express some action or event in the sentence, while auxiliary verbs are those which "help lexical verbs to specify additional meaning." (Aarts 2014, 67) In addition, verbs can also have different forms such as regular or irregular. Regular verbs have four morphological forms and if the verb base is known "we can predict the other three forms" (Quirk et al. 2009, 25). Nevertheless, the irregular forms of the verb differ in various criteria: for example, verb *see* has five forms, while the verb *read* has only three forms. These verb forms are crucial because they have a "certain function in finite and non-finite verb phrases". (Quirk et al. 2009, 25)

2   GRAMMATICAL CATEGORIES OF THE VERB

According to Radford (2005, 28) words are divided into grammatical categories "according to their morphological and syntactical properties". Verbs, as a part of the speech, express grammatical categories, which are: person and number, tense, aspect, voice and mood. (Crystal 2005, 204)

2.1   Person and number

Person and number in a grammatical perspective are connected. According to Dušková (2003, 214) they have singular and plural form and corresponding inflectional suffixes. However, verbs in present tense forms do not have suffixes except of third person singular which has a suffix − (e)s (1). In the table below it can be seen the verb *be* which diverse from other verbs in expression of person and number:

1. *She / He waves at me.*

	Singular number	**Plural number**
First person	I am (was)	We are (were)
Second person	You are (were)	You are (were)
Third person	He, She, It is (was)	They are (were)

1) Table of persons and numbers

2.2   Voice

As it is stated in Quirk et al. (2004, 159) "voice is a grammatical category which makes it possible to view the action of a sentence in either of two ways, without change in the facts reported." In English, there are two types of voice - active and passive. The difference

between active and passive voice is in their sentence construction. Passive voice is formed by the auxiliary verb *BE* and it is followed by the *main verb* with the past participle inflection *-EN*. The passive voice changes the position of the argument of the verb and the form of the verb. (Tallerman 2005, 58)

2. *The lady miss**ed** the train*

3. *The essay **was written**(by me).*

In active sentence *the train* is an object, however, in a passive sentence it changes into the subject. Moreover, the subject in the active sentence *the lady* is demoted and becomes an object of the preposition. (Tallerman 2005, 58)

2.3   Aspect

According to Quirk et al. (2004, 188) "the term aspect refers to a grammatical category which reflect the way in which the verb action is regarded or experienced with respect to time." Another definition is that "the option of the aspect depends on speakers how they view the whole situation."(Huddleston and Pullum 2014, 117) English distinguish between two aspects - perfective aspect and progressive aspect and they can be marked for present and past tense.

2.3.1   Perfective aspect

Perfective aspect consists of the verb *HAVE* in the appropriate number and person and is followed by the verb which is marked by the inflection *–ED* or *-EN*. The perfective aspect is usually used when "the action is viewed as a complete". (Quirk et al. 2004, 189)

4. *She **has** stud**ied** English for quite a long time.*

5. *I **had** giv**en** him a pen.*

Perfective aspect can be either present perfective as can be seen in example (4) or past perfective showed in example (5).

2.3.2 Perfective aspect

On the contrast the progressive aspect consists of the verb *BE* and the verb marked by inflection *-ING*. Usually the progressive aspect is used when something is happening in the progress at a given time.

6. *Mark plays the guitar well*.

7. *Mark **is** play**ing** the guitar well*.

According to example (6) Mark plays the guitar well all the time. On the contrary, the (7) shows that Mark is playing the guitar well only in one particular occasion.

As it was stated in Quirk et al. (2004, 189) "the tense is closely connected to the aspect" which means that if you combined these two grammatical categories "two different kinds of realization will appear: the morphological realization of tense and the syntactic realization of aspect." This can nicely be seen in with the progressive aspect because both of these examples (6) and (7) have the same tense but their aspect is different. For a better understanding and realization of aspect function, I prepared the table of aspect:

Present perfective aspect	She has arrived.
Past perfective aspect	She had arrived.
Present progressive aspect	She is arriving.
Past progressive aspect	She was arriving.
Present perfective progressive aspect	She has been arriving.
Past perfective progressive aspect	She had been arriving.

2) Table of aspect forms

2.4 Mood

According to Carnie (2014, 263) "the mood refers to the speaker's perspective on the event - in particular, whether the event described is a possibility, a probability, a necessity, or an obligation." English language tends to distinguish three types of moods:

- Indicative

- Imperative

- Subjunctive

8. *Mark is playing the guitar well*.

9. *Go to the cinema!*

10. *The committee recommend that Mrs. Anderson retire.*

11. *If I were you, I would go to the cinema*.

The indicative mood is usually used for actual event as in example (8). The imperative mood (9) is used for requests or commands and uses the bare form of the verb. When the hypothetical event can be expressed, English uses subjunctive mood. The subjunctive mood can be either present or past. The present subjunctive mood is expressed by the base form of the verb and there is no subject agreement in the third person singular. The past subjunctive differs from indicative mood only in the first and third person singular, where the verb *BE* is used in *were* form. "Sometimes, the past subjunctive mood is called the *were-subjunctive* mood." (Quirk et al. 2004, 155)

2.5 Tense

Carnie (2014, 258) defines that "tense refers to the time of an event relative to the time at which the sentence is either spoken or written." However, the time is not equal to the tense which person use. Time is "the indefinite continued progress of existence and events in the

past, present and future, regarded as a whole." (Aarts 2014, 243) The present time is seen as an event which is happening right now and everything what precede is the past and everything what follows is the future. Nevertheless, according to Tallerman (2010, 55) English verbs only have two tenses - the present and past tense.

2.5.1 Present tense

Generally, the tense in English is expressed by inflections. Hence, when we can read in the sentence (12) the –s form in third person singular, it is possible to deduce that the event is happening in the present. Other present forms are expressed only by the base form (13).

  12. *He swims every day.*

  13. *I love you.*

2.5.2 Past tense

For expression of the past English uses –ed form with regular verbs, while the irregular verbs have a change in a vowel.

  14. *Mary played games yesterday.*

  15. *Peter sang yesterday a new song*

2.5.3 Future tense

Quirk et al. (2004, 176-177), as well as Tallerman, distinguish only the past and the present "since morphologically English has no future form of the verb in addition to present and past form. The morphology of the expression of the future works differently. Let me compare these three examples:

  16. *She will like the chocolate.*

  17. **She will likes the chocolate.*

  18. **She will liked the chocolate.*

In the example (16), the sentence is grammatically correct, however, I want to point out that the structure of the future tense differs from the present and past structure, due to the fact that the future tense does not use any inflection. The future tense is expressed by auxiliary verb *will* + *infinitive*. In the (17) and (18), we can see that by adding an inflection to the verb, the sentence will become ungrammatical. For that reason Quirk et al. does not consider the future tense as a formal category. "We prefer to follow those grammarians who have treated tense strictly as a category realized by inflection." (Quirk et. al. 2004, 176)

2.5.4 Finite and non-finite forms of the verb

Finite forms			Non-finite forms		
-s form	base form	past form	base form	-ing participle	-ed participle
speaks	*speak*	*spoke*	*speak*	*speaking*	*spoken*
plays	*play*	*played*	*play*	*playing*	*played*

3) Table of verb forms

According to first chapter of my bachelor thesis, the forms of the verb, regular and irregular, have a certain function in the verb phrase. Thanks to them English distinguish between two forms of the verb: tensed -FINITE form and non-tensed - NON-FINITE form. Finite forms differ from non-finite forms in expression of grammatical categories. The finite forms are defined as those which have certain number, tense, person, or mood. (Yadurajan 2014, 109 – 113). On the other hand, non-finite forms only express aspect or voice and they are not limited by any number, tense, person, or mood.

Taking into consideration morphology, forms of the verb can be:

- the base form

- the -s form

- the -ing participle

- the past form

- the -ed participle

According to the Quirk et al. (2009, 25) "the –s form and the past form are always FINITE, whereas the –ing form and –ed participle is always NON-FINITE." The base form can be either finite or non-finite which depends on the sentence where the base form is used.

2.5.4.1   The base form

The base form, also called infinitives, has no endings. The base form can be either tensed (1) or non-tensed (2). (Aarts 2014, 21), which depends on the structure of the clause:

*19. I **play** football.*

*20. I may **play** the football today.*

2.5.4.2   The –s form

The -s form is used for the third person singular in the present tense.

*21. She love**s** eating chocolate.*

2.5.4.3   The –ing form

The - ing form is added to the verb base and it forms -ing participle, which is non-tensed.

*22. He play**ing** the guitar.*

2.5.4.4   The past form

The past form is used in past tense and it is a finite form of the verb.

*23. He play**ed** the football yesterday.*

2.5.4.5   The –ed form

The -ed form is added to the verbs base and with regular verbs it forms past tense and past participle. With irregular the past participle form can be formed by inflection –en, which is non-tensed.

24. *She watched the last episode of Hunger Games.*

25.   *He has stolen the keys.*

3 SYNTACTIC STRUCTURES

Phrases are constituents which include more than one word. (Huddleston and Pullum 2009, 22)."A clause is a grammatical structure that exemplifies a *Subject-Predicate relationship*." (Aarts 2014, 8) Every clause has their elements. The main elements of the clause are subject, verb, object, complement and adverbial. These main elements function either as phrases or subordinate clauses. (Quirk et .al 2004, 60). Each phrases has its head alone or one or more dependents. The dependent which precedes the head is called pre-modifier and the dependent which follows the head is called post-modifier. In English, there are five types of phrases which are "named after a class of word which has a primary and indeed obligatory function within it." Those are: Noun phrases, Adjective phrases, Prepositional phrases and Verb phrases. (Quirk et al. 2004, 60-64).

3.1 Noun phrase

Noun phrases are made up of a head, typically a noun but it can also be a pronoun, and obligatory or optionally by determinatives and pre-modificators and post-modificators. (Quirk et al. 2004, 62)

26. *[She]* ^{NP} *remember [the handsome boy with the short hair]* ^{NP}.

3.2 Adjective phrase

Adjective phrases as well as noun phrases are made up of head, which in this case is an adjective, and optionally has pre-modificators and post-modificators.

27. *The food was [undoubtedly delicious]* ^{AP}.

28. *The food was [good enough]* ^{AP}.

3.3 Prepositional phrase

Prepositional phrases have in its head a preposition and this preposition is followed by prepositional complement.

29. *I am worried [about my future]^{PP}.*

3.4 Verb phrase

As well as verb forms, the verb phrase can also be finite or non-finite. Finite verb phrase is the one which the first verb of the phrase is finite and the rest of verbs are non-finite. (Quirk et al. 2009, 41) Non-finite verb phrase is the one in which one of the four non-finite forms of the verb is used.

3.4.1   Finite verb phrase

Firstly, finite verb phrases can take place in the independent clause as a verb phrase.

30. *I [smile]^{VP}.*

Finite verb phrases also show the contrast between the tenses:

31. *I [worked hard]^{VP}yesterday.*

32. *She [works hard]^{VP}every day.*

Thirdly, finite verb phrases have subject-verb agreement which can be nicely seen with the verb *be*.

33. *I [am here]^{VP} for you.*

34. *She [is so hungry]^{VP}.*

Finally, finite verb phrases express mood, which can be indicative (35 and 36), imperative (37) or subjunctive (38). (Quirk et al. 2009, 41)

35. *She [goes]^{VP}to the cinema very often.*

36. *She [is going]^{VP}to the cinema right now.*

37. *[Go]^{VP} to the cinema!*

38. It [is demanded that she [go]^{VP} to the cinema]^{VP}.

3.4.2 Non-finite verb phrases

Non-finite phrases can be four types and they do not carry a tense (Aarts 2014,12):

- to-infinitive

- bare infinitive

- -ing participle

- past participle

Non-finite verb phrases do not usually occur in the independent clause as a verb phrase.

(Quirk et al. 2009, 41)

39. [To eat]^{VP} a lot is unhealthy for you.

40. I allow you [to sing]^{VP} a song.

3.4.2.1 Meaning of the non-finite verb phrases

According to Quirk et al. (2004, 237) "distinctions of aspect are the only ones which are expressed within the constructional possibilities of a single non-finite verb phrase."

41. "I heard them [shoot at him.] ^{VP} " (Quirk et al. 2004, 237)

42. "I heard them [shooting at him.]" ^{VP} (Ibid.)

The bare infinitive in example (41) suggests that only a single shot was heard. On the contrary, the gerund propose that the action of shooting last for a period of time.

43. "I watched them [climb the tower.]" ^{VP} (Ibid.)

44. "I watched them [climbing the tower.]" ^{VP} (Ibid.)

The bare infinitive in this example (43) suggest that the person saw the moment when they reached the top of the tower, however the gerund implies that the person saw only a part of the climbing to the tower. The person did not see how they reached the top of the tower.

However, Quirk et al. (2004, 1191) claims that if both constructions (to-infinitive or gerund) can follow the verb, there is difference between aspect or mood which influence the usage of these two constructions. "As a rule, the infinitive gives a sense of mere "potentiality" for action, while the gerund gives sense of the actual "performance" of the action itself."

45. *"Sheila tried [to bribe the jailor.]"^{VP} (Quirk et al. 1191)*

46. *"Sheila tried [bribing the jailor.]"^{VP} (ibid.)*

To-infinitive suggests the action when Sheila makes an effort to bribe the jailor but she did not succeed. On the other side, the second example implies that she did the act of bribing but she did not manage to get what she wanted.

3.4.3 Contrasts in the verb phrase

As it was stated previously in this chapter, in a finite verb phrase is necessary to choose between present tense or past tense (examples: 31 and 32) and also between mood (examples 35 – 38).

Regarding aspect, there is a necessity to choose between perfective (41) or progressive (42):

47. *She [has worked]^{VP} in several companies.*

48. *She [is playing]^{VP} the piano very well.*

Voice requires a choice between active or passive:

49. *I [like your new shoes]^{VP}.*

50. *The essay [was written]^{VP} by me.*

Next contrast which is necessary to choose is finiteness, if the verb phrase would be finite or non-finite.

51. *She [plays]^{VP} music loudly.*

52. *[Playing music loudly]^{VP} is thoughtless towards neighbours.*

4 VERB VALENCY

Verb valency, also called argument structure or verb complementation, is defined as a number of noun phrases, prepositional phrases, and clauses which verb requires. (Carnie 2013, 57) In other words "complementation is a function of a part of a phrase or clause which follows a word, and completes the specification of a meaning relationship which that word implies." (Quirk et al. 2004, 65) The main verb "wholly or largely determines what form the rest of the structure will take." (Quirk et al 2004, 53). The type of complementation can be either obligatory or optional depending on the verb used. English distinguish between three main verb classes:

- intransitive verbs
- transitive verbs
- ditransitive verbs

4.1 Intransitive verbs

The first main verb class is called intransitive verbs. Intransitive verbs are those which have only one argument that precedes the predicate and they do not need to be followed by any argument. Those verbs could be *smile, arrive, run, shine, blow, sleep etc.*

53. *I smile (everyday).*

54. *I arrived (yesterday).*

These intransitive verbs require a NP Subject.

55. *Mary has arrived.*

56. **Mary drinks.*

57. *Mary drinks water.*

In(48) is grammatical because the verb *arrive* is intransitive verb. The verb *drink* is also intransitive; however, in this case the verb is marked as ungrammatical due to the fact that this verb required further explanation as in (50.)

4.2   Transitive verbs

Transitive verbs are those which have valency of two and have one argument that precedes the verb and they also require the second argument which can be obligatory and follows the verb. This obligatory argument is called object. The direct object is there to provide the full meaning of the sentence. Verbs which belong to this category could be: *believe, call, enjoy, describe, pass, know, take etc.* (Quirk 2009, 345)

   58. *She passes the test.*

   59. *Mike described the picture.*

4.3 Ditransitive verbs

Finally, the last argument structure is called ditransitive verbs. Predicates which have a valency of three, which means that they need three obligatory arguments, are called ditransitive verbs. As well as other argument structures, one of the obligatory argument precedes the verb and two of obligatory arguments followed the verb. The best examples for group of ditransitive verbs are:

   60. *put, give, buy, spare, show, take, write etc.*

These ditransitive verbs are significant by using two NP objects (the first one indirect, the second one direct). The indirect object is usually focused on a recipient, while the direct object is focused on patient.

   61. *She gave him a chocolate.*

5   NON-FINITE COMPLEMENTATION

Non-finite complementation can be also characterized as catenative complementation. According to Huddleston and Pullum (2009, 1177) the term catenative "applies to a large class of construction where a verb has a non-finite internal complement." Catenative construction can be repeated and it can form a "chain" of verbs. Catenative constructions can be simple (62) or complex (63). The major difference between simple and complex construction is that the complex constructions has intervening NP, whereas the simple construction does not. (Huddleston and Pullum 2009, 1177)

62. *I came to see her living.*

63. *I allow you to go there.*

Non-finite complementation, either simple or complex, can be realized in four types:

- bare infinitival

- past-participle

- to-infinitival

- gerund-participial

64. *Most people I **know go** there for specific items, not practically every day, like you would the grocery store. [COCA:2007:Atlanta] – bare infinitival*

65. *I'm the one who's trying to ask the question of how the process **gets repaired**. [COCA:1991:ABC_Nightline] – past-participle*

66. *Therese had explained the rule here that a girl must either **accept to dance** with everyone who asked her or not get up at all. [BNC:1985-1994:W_fict_prose] – to-infinitival*

67. *But when I tried to **avoid giving** them he ordered me to tell him what was up. [BNC:1985-1994:W_fict_prose]*

It is also necessary to understand that some verbs can be used in more categories, for instance, the verb *imagine* can be used either with gerund: *I imagine living in the USA.* or with object followed by gerund: *I imagine Peter dancing and I cannot stop laughing.* In this chapter, I will focus on catenative constructions with the most common verbs. All these verbs are taken over from Huddleston and Pullum (2009, 1239 – 1240) and Quirk et al (2004, 1185-1218).

5.1 Verbs followed by bare infinitive:

Only a small number of verbs can be used with this pattern. This verbs can be used either in simple or complex catenative construction. Huddleston and Pullum (2009, 1239 – 1240) and Quirk et al (2004, 1185-1218)

Auxiliaries: *Can, dare, had (better), may, must, shall, will, would (rather).*

Among causative verbs: *Have, let, make.*

68. *I can [go to the park this afternoon]^{VP}.*

69. *My boss let me [leave early from the work]^{VP}.*

5.2 Verbs followed by past-participle:

According to Huddleston and Pullum (2009, 1244) the past-participle occurs only with three verbs: *Be, have, get.* These verbs can be used either in simple or complex catenative construction.

70. *I have got my watch [repaired immediately]^{VP}.*

71. *I have [been working on the project a long time]^{VP}.*

72. *She was [born in 1995]^{VP}.*

5.3 Verbs followed by to-infinitive:

According to Huddleston and Pullum (2009, 1239 – 1240) and Quirk et al (2004, 1185-1218) these verbs can be followed by to-infinitive. As well as in previous groups of verbs, these verbs can be used with simple or complex catenative construction, those verbs are:

Accept, accustom, affect, affirm, aid, allege, announce, appoint, argue, ascertain, aspire, assert, assume, assist, attest, authorise, back, badger, beckon, believe, beseech, blackmail, bribe, bring, caution, certify, challenge, choose, command, commission, compel, concede, conceive, conclude, condemn, consent, constrain, declare, decline, deduce, defy, demonstrate, design, direct, discipline, disdain, drive, elect, empower, entice, entitle, entreat, equip, fail, fit, forbid, force, gather, grant, hesitate, hold, implore, incite, induce, inspire, instruct, invite, judge, lead, learn, live, manage, nominate, oblige, offer, omit, permit, pressure, proceed, proclaim, prompt, provoke, recognise, refuse, remind, represent, rule, seek, select, state, stand, stipulate, strive, suppose, teach, trust, urge, venture, verify and volunteer.

73. *She encouraged me [to finish studies]^{VP}.*

74. *She forced me [to do the dishes]^{VP}.*

75. *I manage [to do a lot of things today]^{VP}.*

76. *I decided [to go for a walk]^{VP}.*

77. *I planned [to do it two weeks ago]^{VP}.*

78. *David seems [to be losing weight]^{VP}. (It is apparent that David is losing the weight.)*

79. *I finished [washing the dishes]^{VP}.*

5.4 Verbs followed by gerund:

These verbs can be used in simple or complex catenative constructions and according to Huddleston and Pullum (2009, 1239 – 1240) and Quirk et al (2004, 1185-1218) these verbs are:

Abhor, anticipate, appreciate, avoid, begrudge, catch, celebrate, complete, consider, contemplate, countenance, defer, delay, depict, describe, detest, discover, discuss, endure, enjoy, envisage, envy, escape, excuse, fancy, find, finish, forgive, go, keep, leave, mention, miss, pardon, picture, portray, postpone, practise, preclude, prevent, prohibit, quit, recall, relish, repent, resent, resist, resume, set, show, smell, suggest, support and tolerate.

For better imagination, here are some examples:

   80. She resumed [working on the paper]^{VP}.

   81. She avoided [working as a waitress]^{VP}.

   82. My dad smelled smoke [coming from my sister's bedroom]^{VP}.

5.5 Special category of verbs consists of feeling, hearing and seeing

These verbs are quite specific, due to the fact that vast majority of the verbs can be followed by to-infinitive or gerund. However, these verbs are followed by gerund as well and furthermore by bare infinitive. Those verbs are so called perceptual verbs. Quirk et al (2004, 1207)

Hear, see, overhear, feel, notice, watch.

   83. She heard him watching the TV.

   84. She heard him watch the TV.

   85. We watched them play basketball since the beginning.

   86. We watched them playing basketball.

When these verbs are used with gerund it means that the action is in progress and that the person heard the whole action. On the contrary, when these verbs are used with bare infinitive the action is completed and the person heard only a certain part of the action. Quirk et al (2004, 1207)

5.6 Prepositional verbs or phrasal verbs:

The prepositional verbs or phrasal verbs are constructed by a verb and a preposition. These verbs are always followed by gerund. According to Quirk et al (2004, 1152-1160) these prepositional or phrasal verbs can be:

Bank on, bother about, break off, condescend to, count on, decide on, delight in, get around to, give up, hesitate about, leave off, look forward to, play at, prepare for, pretend to, put off, resolve on, resort to, see about, seek for, serve for, shrink from, strive for, take up.

Here are some examples of these verbs:

   87. I counted on being there on time.

   88. She has taken up playing the piano.

   89. I am really looking forward to seeing you.

5.7 Verbs followed by to-infinitive or gerund without any change in meaning:

As well as in previous these verbs can be both in simple or complex catenative constructions. Huddleston and Pullum (2009, 1239 – 1240) and Quirk et al (2004, 1185-1218)

Acknowledge, admit, attempt, bother, cease, commence, confess, continue, deny, encourage, intend, loathe, love, neglect, plan, prefer, propose, recommend, report, require.

For a better illustration here are few examples:

90. I began singing last year.

91. I began to sing last year.

92. They forbade him to speak about the secrets.

93. They forbade making videos about wild nature.

However, after these verbs English usually avoid using two gerunds forms in succession.

94. My family members started fighting.

*95. *My family members starting fighting.*

5.8 Verbs which are followed by to-infinitive or gerund with a change in meaning are:

This chapter will be dealing with verbs which can be followed by either to-infinitive or gerund but they have a change in meaning. These verbs are excerpted from Huddleston and Pullum (2009, 1239 – 1240) and Quirk et al (2004, 1185-1218). Here is the list of the verbs on which books agrees on:

Begin, forget, hate, like, regret, remember, started and try.

5.8.1   Aspectual verbs

Verb *start:*

According to Quirk et al. "there is no observable difference of meaning between these two constructions. But in other cases, a contrast between "potentiality" and "performance" may influence the choice." When a person started to speak but they need to stop speaking, the *to-infinitive* is used. While when it comes to performance, the *gerund* as a complementation is used. (Quirk et al. 2004, 1192)

96. She started to speak, but she had to stop.

97. She started speaking and continued for half an hour.

Verb *begin:*

According to Quirk et al. (2004, 1192)

With the example (98) is usage of *gerund* much more appropriate due to the fact that *gerund* is preferred where "multiple activities are involved". Moreover, the *gerund* is used for ongoing activity, while the *to-infinitive* is rather used in static situation. (Huddleston and Pullum 2009,1241).

> *98. *? They began to open all the gifts.*

> *99. They began opening all the gifts.*

5.8.2 Emotive verbs

Verbs *like, love* and *hate*:

The usage of gerund with these verbs is used when "a speaker is referring to something which definitely happens or has happened". (Quirk et al. 2004, 1192)On the other hand, the to-infinitive is used when we talk about "hypothetical or non-factual context". (Quirk et al. 2004, 1192)

> *100.   I like to stay at home tonight because it is raining outside.*

> *101.   I love to go there.*

> *102.   She hates to disappoint her mother.*

> *103.   She hates walking on foot when it is raining outside.*

5.8.3 Retrospective verbs

Verbs *remember*, *forget and regret*:

According to Quirk et al (2004, 1193) *to-infinitive* is used after these when we are talking about "action or event which takes place after the mental process denoted by the verb has begun." However, the usage of *gerund* "refers to a preceding event or occasion coming to mind at the time indicated by the main verb."

104.   *I remember giving you the essay, so it must be on the table.*

105.   *I forgot to lock the door, but I closed the window.*

106.   *I regret saying those words. I am sorry.*

107.   *I regret to tell you that you did not pass the exam.*

5.8.4   Verb *try*:

When the verb *try* is followed by gerund, the meaning is that the person tries to solve the problem or to do the best to achieve something. On the contrary, when the verb *try* is followed by to-infinitive it means that the person makes an effort or the person attempts to do something. (Huddleston and Pullum 2009, 1225)

108.   *My boss hates me. (b) Why don't you try working harder?*

109.   *I tried to exercise everyday but I gave up.*

II. ANALYSIS

6 METHODOLOGY OF THE RESEARCH

The aim of the research is to compare occurrences of verbs which can be either followed by *to-infinitive* or *gerund* in British English and American English. For this purpose, I chose to conduct the corpus study. The corpus study was done from the British National Corpus (BNC) and Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA). Verbs which were used in this research were showed in the previous chapter, more precisely chapter 5.7 and 5.8. After the list of the most common verbs with a certain pattern was completed I conducted the research through corpora where I used queries to get to know the frequency of the verb with a certain pattern. The queries for verbs which are followed by *to-infinitive* were, for instance: **[begin] to [v?i*].** For verbs which are followed by *gerund* the query, for example:**[begin] [v?g*]** was used. Due to the fact that the verb was put into brackets, it was possible to searched all forms of the verb (begin, began, begun, begins, beginning). Thirdly, I divided the practical part into two parts. At first, I focused on verbs which can be followed by *to-infinitive* or *gerund* without any change in meaning. Then I created a table of these verbs and put down the frequency of non-finite complementation in it. After that I described every verb from the table and support it with an examplefrom BNC or COCA. Secondly, I focused on verbs which have a change in meaning. These verbs are those on which Quirk et al. and Huddleston and Pullum agrees on. I divided this part into *retrospective verbs, emotive verbs, aspectual verbs* and *verb try*. For every single verb I chose the examples from BNC and COCA, moreover I focused on comparison with the definition given in books.

7   CATENATIVE VERBS WITH NO CHANGE IN MEANING

In this chapter of my practical part I focused on verbs which can be followed either by *to-infinitive* or *gerund* with no change in meaning. In the table below can be seen frequencies of these verb patterns in British National Corpus and Corpus of Contemporary American English. From the first sight on the table it can be nicely seen that the vast majority of the non-finite complementation is done by *to-infinitive.* For that reason, the frequencies which are highlighted with green colour show the vast majority of non-finite complementation done by *gerund* in British English. I did the same for American English where the *gerund* frequency was highlighted orange. The blue colour shows the special case of the verb *purpose* where the frequencies found out in COCA, for *to-infinitive* and *gerund,* were almost the same.

	BNC		COCA	
	To-infinitive	Gerund	To-infinitive	Gerund
acknowledge	75	10	138	310
admit	59	395	118	634
attempt	4 075	37	12 028	111
bother	615	204	2 085	833
cease	1 260	145	2 168	470
commence	30	57	112	121
confess	10	0	51	20
continue	5 466	517	30 625	4 193
deny	3	317	13	988
encourage	978	66	2 897	197
intend	3 062	204	8 964	87

loathe	34	12	181	55
neglect	117	5	740	43
plan	2 773	220	18 335	647
prefer	1 346	113	4 496	724
propose	588	144	1 025	1 027
recommend	129	139	198	1 653
report	1 325	461	2 164	5 879
require	2 721	146	8 699	1 148

4) Table of catenative verbs with no change in meaning

According to British National Corpus and Corpus of Contemporary American English, the verb *acknowledge* is not so frequently used in comparison to the other verbs. In British English this particular verb is in vast majority followed by *to-infinitive* as it can be seen in example (1). On the contrary American English tend to use after this verb *gerund* form (2).

1. *The opening fourteen chapters of Scale 1 provide a context of definitions for Hilton's particular address to a recluse asking advice on the contemplative life which, in the first chapter, he **acknowledges to be** a demanding process [BNC:1985-1994:W_ac_humanities_arts]*

2. *And in a couple of other Disney films, artists have **acknowledged taking** inspiration from a more contemporary Japanese animator, Hayao Miyazaki. [COCA:1194:SanFranChron]*

Verb *admit* is, both in BrE and AmE, used with *gerund* complementation. In American English (3) the verb *admit* is mostly used with verbs such as: *having, being, using* or *killing.* In BrE (4) the verb *admit* is rather used with verbs such as: *causing, driving, taking* or *being.*

3. *After all, Obama had **admitted** **using** drugs himself and actually enjoying it-- going well beyond former President Bill Clinton's ridicule-attracting assertion that he had smoked pot but, did not inhale. [COCA:2012:NACLAReportAmerica]*

4. *At Northampton Crown court Hayton **admitted** **causing** death by reckless driving. [BNC:1985-1994:W_news_script]*

The verb *attempt* is according to BNC and COCA, mostly followed by *to-infinitive* (5). Moreover, the occurrences of *gerund* complementation in BNC and COCA are quite low. (In AmE, it was 111 results and in BrE it was only 37 results) As it was stated in the methodology of the research, word *attempt* can be consider as verb or noun, which depends on the structure of the sentence. Based on the BNC research, in BrE (6) we can see both possibilities.

5. *They also **attempt** **to explain** the difference in terms of theme/rheme, though their explanation is somewhat different from Halliday's. [BNC:1985-1994:W_ac_soc_science].*

6. *A judge said it is the duty of the courts to support any **attempts** **being** made to prevent crimes of that nature. [BNC:1985-1994:W_newsp_other_report]*

7. *The previous three landings **attempted** **using** the integral landing skid resulted in three sets of broken rotors! [BNC:1985-1994:W_misc]*

According to research from BNC and COCA the verb *bother* is in vast majority followed by *to-infinitive* (8). However, it is usually connected with negative operator, for instance: *don't bother, didn't bother, wouldn't bother.* However, the non-finite complementation by *gerund* can be also possible (9).

8. *I did not **bother** **to ask** Barb what her mother was upset about. [COCA:2013:ArkansasRev]*

9. *They didn't **bother** **going** any further. [BNC:1985-1994:W_pop_lore]*

Verb *cease* is according to research in vast majority used with *to-infinitive* complementation, both in AmE and BrE. Nevertheless, the usage of *gerund* is also possible.

10. *From being the centre of his attention one moment all of a sudden she **ceased to exist**. [BNC:1985-1994:W_fict_prose]*

11. *I **ceased looking** at him directly. [COCA:1990:BkSF:LensWorld]*

About the verb *commence* can be said that the usage of this verb is very rare, both in AmE and BrE due to the fact that the total amount of frequency was only 320 results, which is, in comparison with other verbs, very low. Nevertheless, most of the non-finite complementation is done by*gerund*, altogether in BNC and COCA, there are 178 results, whereas the *to-infinitive* complementation is used with 142 results.

12. *In the interval he seemed particularly cheerful and had asked for news about the Bishop's Castle Railway' and shortly after entering the office, while engaged listening to a letter which Mr. Griffiths **commenced to read**, concerning the Bishop's Castle Railway, he fell back and shortly afterwards breathed his last'. [BNC:1985-1994:W_misc]*

13. *The first time J. Dee was there, he looked around the room, noticed that his was the only black face, contemplated his wings, then **commenced eating** with a fork. [COCA:1990:RollingStone]*

Although the verb *confess* is, according to Quirk et al., one of the most used verbs, nevertheless according to research in BNC and COCA, I found that the frequency of usage of this verb is very rare, because, in total both in BNC and COCA, this verb occurred only in 81 cases. In BNC the research showed only a complementation by *to-infinitive* (14)*. While in AmE the usage of *to-infinitive* or *gerund* depends on the situation. When the *to-infinitive* is used, it suggests that the person is guilty for something he/she did in the past

(15), whereas the *gerund* (16) occurs in structures connected to action of some kind such as: *feeling, checking, stealing, performing* or *possession.*

14. *The mother of the remaining patient **confessed to abuse** and the child was placed in the care of the extended family. [BNC:1985-1994:W_ac_medicine]*

15. *As he proudly **confessed to murder** after murder, Rader revealed a darker nature than anyone could have imagined. [COCA:2005:CBS_48Hours]*

16. *Since the move, the mother **confesses feeling** somewhat uneasy over the gradual change she he noticed in her daughter's behavior. [COCA:1992:SchoolPsych]*

Verb *continue*is in vast majority used with *to-infinitive* both in AmE and BrE. However, as you can see from both examples the usage of *gerund* is also possible.

17. *We will **continue to work** and express what we think for the good of our future generations. [COCA:2015:NYTimes]*

18. *If you want to **continue working** until 65, you can choose between the widow's or the basic pension. [BNC:1985-1994:W_non_ac_soc_science]*

Verb *encourage* is in AmE and BrE mostly complemented by *to-infinitive.To-infinitive* with this verb is according to corpora (BNC and COCA) mostly used in passive.The *gerund* form is also used in BrE, however, the occurrence of this pattern is more frequent in AmE.

19. *As mentioned above, COPE is about presenting different strategies that parents are **encouraged to use** in their own families. [COCA:2014:StudiesInEducation]*

20. *Our analysis also suggests two characteristics of religious involvement that do not **encourage thinking** about responsibilities to the poor. [COCA:1994:ChristCentury]*

Moving on to the next verb – *intend,*the vast majority of non-finite complementation is done by *to-infinitive*, both in AmE and BrE. However, the occurrence of *gerund* is much

more frequent in BrE, which is very rare, due to the fact that more frequencies are usually found in COCA.

21. *And what I **<u>intend to do</u>** with my colleagues right when we come back is I intend to introduce legislation to make it clear, for example, that if torture is used in the future, there would be a basis to prosecute. [COCA:2014:NBC]*

22. *Unless you have any objections I **<u>intend using</u>** the report as evidence to support your case. [BNC:1985-1994: W_ac_polit_law_edu]*

Verb *loathe* is one of the verbs which is not frequently used neither in BrE nor in AmE due to the fact that the total frequency of results was only 282. Nevertheless, the verb *loathe* is more used with *to-infinitive* rather than *gerund*, both in BrE and AmE.

23. *One gets the feeling that they actually work on skills and strategies, which the local team is pathetically unprepared for and **<u>loathes to employ</u>**. [COCA:1995:Atlanta]*

24. *Here Lawler pulled a face. He **<u>loathed turning</u>** business away. He went on. [BNC:1985-1994:W_fict_prose]*

Next verb is *neglect* with the vast majority of *to-infinitive* complementation. On the contrary this verb is used very rarely with *gerund,* both in AmE and BrE. So it can be said that the verb *neglect* should rather be used with *to-infinitive.*

25. *What Doyle disingenuously **<u>neglects to mention</u>** is that in a mail-in election the ballots will be counted by the same non-certified machines. [COCA:2005:Denver]*

26. *A farmer is facing charges of cruelty and **<u>neglect involving</u>** hundreds of animals after an investigation by the RSPCA. [BNC:1985-1994:W_news_script]*

The verb *plan* is one of the verbs which are used significantly. This verb, both in BNC and COCA, was used with non-finite complement *to-infinitive* in vast majority of frequency; on the contrary the *gerund* complementation was used only in 867 cases in total. However,

here comes the same problem as with the word *attempt* due to the fact that the word *plan* can be either verb or a noun. Moreover, as well as with the word *attempt* the noun is usually used with *gerund*, on the contrary the verb itself is followed by *to-infinitive.*

27. *Specialty grocery market Natural Grocers **plans to open** a new store here later this year. [COCA:2015:USAToday]*

28. *Maps and **plans showing** site information are nearly always included, but the number and type of photographs and of illustrations of other details of the site and of finds vary from site to site. [BNC:1985-1994:W_non_ac_humanities_arts]*

The verb *prefer*is also by vast majority used with *to-infinitive.* But as well as other verbs in this category both in AmE and BrE are some occurrences of *gerund* complementation. Interestingly, both in BrE and AmE, the verb *prefer* is mostly used with: *working, being, travelling or using*.

29. *This is why I **prefer to stay** inside at night, by the way. [COCA:2006:Bk:MakeHimLook]*

30. *I **prefer working** in monochrome, you've got more control but I used colour as and when I felt the shot warranted it. [BNC:1985-1994:W_pop_lore]*

31. *Some clients demand a signature design that reflects an individual inspiration, or simply **prefer working** with a single contact. [COCA:2003:NYTimes]*

In BrE verb *propose* is in vast majority used with *to-infinitive* (32). However, the research from COCA shows that the usage of this verb with *to-infinitive* or *gerund* depends on the speaker. In COCA *to-infinitive* was used in 1 025 cases and *gerund* was used in 1 027 cases, which very unusual occurrence.

32. *I **propose to make** the declaration which is sought. [BNC:1985-1994: W_ac_polit_law_edu]*

33. *The Georgia Senate **proposed** **cutting** all public funding for judicial training in next year's budget. [COCA:2009:Atlanta]*

34. *In addition, he **proposes** **to give** block grants to states to help Medicare recipients pay for prescription drugs. [COCA:2000:SanFranChron]*

Verb *recommend* is one of those verbs where the vast majority of non-finite complementation is done by *gerund*, both in AmE (35) and BrE (36). On the contrary, in BrE (37) the *to-infinitive* after this verb is also possible.

35. *She **recommends** **using** an alarm clock, since it sets a boundary for you. [COCA:2015:HarvardHeatlhLetter]*

36. *If you like styling products, we **recommend** **using** a gel when your hair is wet because the moisture in your hair will dilute it. [BNC:1985-1944:W_pop_lore]*

37. *The figure was neither excessive nor arbitrary, but the minimum size **recommended** **to protect** biological diversity. [BNC:1985-1994:W_misc]*

Word *report*, as well as *attempt* and *plan*, can be either a noun or a verb, which depends on the structure of the sentence. Verb *report* in BrE was mostly used with *to-infinitive*. On the contrary in AmE, the vast majority of complementation was done by *gerund*.

38. *Clinically severe pancreatitis is **reported** **to occur** in 1-7% of patients, while an asymptomatic increase in pancreatic enzyme activities may occur in up to 70%. [BNC:1985-1994:W_ac_medicine]*

39. *A 23-year-old man was arrested after a woman **reported** **being** attacked by a naked man at a local convenience store, the Idaho Statesman reported. [COCA:2015:USAToday]*

The verb *require,* both in BNC and COCA, is used in vast majority with *to-infinitive.* Both in AmE and BrE most frequent combinations are with verbs such as: *to be, to make, to do, to take*.

40. *Encourage them to put in the 10, 000 hours and the discipline **required to make** good work, to tell the kind of nuanced, textured, winsome, even humorous stories that evoke a desire in an audience to be truly, fully human. [COCA:2014:ChrisToday]*

41. *The twenty thousand **required to make** that spend will come out of public conveniences budget. [BNC:1985-1994:S_meeting]*

8 CATENATIVE VERBS WITH CHANGE IN MEANING

In this chapter of my practical part I focused on verbs which can be followed either by *to-infinitive* or *gerund* with a change in meaning. In the table below can be seen frequencies of these verb patterns in British National Corpus and Corpus of Contemporary American English. As I stated previously in chapter 7, those frequencies which are highlighted green are those where the vast majority of non-finite complementation is done by gerund in BNC. The vast majority of non-finite complementation done by gerund in COCA is highlighted orange.

	BNC		COCA	
	To-infinitive	Gerund	To-infinitive	Gerund
forget	651	25	2 921	260
begin	7 053	1 055	29 388	16 903
hate	357	311	3 725	1 600
like	6915	3 584	42 791	25 145
regret	60	130	193	746
remember	408	544	1 284	7 761
start	3 450	2 489	35 810	18 763
try	14 014	668	124 206	3 420

5) Table of catenative verbs with change in meaning

8.1 Retrospective verbs (forget, remember, and regret)

According to Quirk et al. (2004, 1193) when the retrospective verbs are used with *gerund* it suggests that the person forgot, remember or regret some action, which he or she should do and that "refers to preceding event or occasion coming to mind", while *to-infinitive* implies

that "the action or event takes place after the mental process denoted by the verb". (Quirk et al. 2004, 1139)

42. *Forget the flourish of the big white napkin, forget two thumbs on the cork's corona, <u>**forget aiming**</u> at the bulbs in the recessed ceiling-lights. Just hold the cork and turn the bottle. [BNC:1985-1994:W_fict_prose]*

43. *For starters, there are a zillion things to buy. <u>**Forget taking**</u> that old bedspread along for a picnic. Now you can buy a special tufted picnic blanket to color-coordinate with the picnic basket on wheels and the matching plastic plates and goblets, along with a bin to store them neatly in. [COCA: 2005:MAG_USCatholic]*

Nevertheless, both COCA and BNC examples suggest by construction *forget taking* or *forget aiming* the possibility to throw away the old bedspread and rather buy a new one. It implies the possibility to forget about the old habit and rather try something new.

The verb *forget* followed by *to-infinitive* in BrE suggest that the person did not remember to ask if other person likes the garlic, so they put it into the food and after that they realised that they should asked the person first.

44. *I <u>**forgot to ask**</u> if you like garlic, but there was some in with the vegetables so I took a chance,' [BCN: 1985-1994: W_fitct_prose]*

The same can be said about COCA example, where the person failed to remember that they wanted to do something else. Both of these examples support the definition of Quirk et al. that the action took place after forgetting.

45. *Unfortunately, when I turn on the light, I see something else I <u>**forgot to do**</u>. I forgot to take down my drawings. [COCA:2004: Bk:TrueMeaningCleavage]*

The verb *remember* is specific for the frequency of results which are done by *gerund.* Both in COCA and BNC, the vast majority of non-finite complementation is done by *gerund.* According to definition from Quirk et al., the verb *remember* followed by *gerund* are in

examples from BNC and COCA used correctly. However, Eastwood (2007, 141) gives a definition which suggests that the person remembers the whole action and talks about memories and this definition for these particular examples would be much more suitable.

46. *I **remember** **watching** children dancing at a wedding a few weeks ago. Some were dancing to the beat. [BNC:1985-1994:W_pop_lore]*

47. *I **remember** **sitting** in my friend's apartment at around 4 a.m. doing the sorts of things folks do at 4 a.m., and he was playing music. [COCA:2011:Houston]*

Huddleston and Pullum (2009, 1242) define the process when the *to-infinitive* is used as a "projection into the future with respect to that implicit earlier time." If we look closely on these two examples, they suggest us that we should not to forget about something before the action.

48. *Reusable bags are everywhere and are just as convenient if you **remember** **to bring** them to the store. [COCA:2014:Denver]*

49. *If by any chance the cassette has already been used for recording on another machine (for example, on a VHS mains VCR), **remember** **to** **check** that the cassette's safety-tab is still in place, otherwise, you may be baffled by your camcorder's refusal to do any recording! [BNC:1985-1994:W_misc]*

Verb *regret* also belong to the category of retrospective verbs, so the definition about usage of *to-infinitive* or *gerund* remains the same. Furthermore, according to the examples from COCA and BNC, it can be said that *gerund* is usually used when the person, who is speaking, is sorry about the statement/action they made.

50. *I **regret** **leaving** the keys on the table. [COCA:2015:FantasySciFi]*

51. *I **regret** **having** to say that I disagreed with almost everything he (Mr Hurd) said and agreed with almost everything the Right Hon gentleman said from the Opposition front bench.' [BNC:1985-1994:W_newsp_brdsht_nat_report]*

On the contrary, according to BNC and COCA, the usage of *to-infinitive* suggests that the person is sorry to tell the sad statement to somebody.

52. I refer to your application for the above post in the Unit of this Department of the Regional Council and to your interview on after careful consideration I ***regret*** ***to*** ***inform*** *you that you have been unsuccessful. [BNC:1985-1994:W_non_ac_soc_science]*

53. Well, I ***regret*** ***to*** ***say*** *that Rhode Island has a reputation for corruption, but despite that, I did not think we had a widespread issue with the election corruption. [COCA:2011:NPR_TellMore]*

8.2 Emotive verbs (like, love, hate)

When the *to-infinitive* is used with the verb *hate* it "tends to favour its use in hypothetical and nonfactual contexts." Quirk et al. (2004, 1192) On the contrary, this definition does not support the examples from COCA and BNC. In COCA the meaning is that the person is lost and they do not want to say it out loud. While in BNC the example shows that the person does not enjoy the moment when they saw somebody unhappy. The usage of *to-infinitive* with verb *hate* is that the person does not enjoy the moment, he\she feels uncomfortable with the situation.

54. I ***hate to admit*** *it but I'm lost. Maybe you can help.*

[COCA:2013:BkMerryChristmas]

55. And I ***hate to see*** *you unhappy, and you won't feel better if you stay in and frowst by the fire all day. [BNC:1985-1994:W_fic_prose]*

The *gerund* after verb *hate* is usually used when we talk about actuality and "when the speaker referring to something which definitely happens or has happened." (Quirk et al. 2004, 1192) Nevertheless, the COCA example suggests that the person does not want to go

to school and does not want to do some action. The same can be stated with the example from BNC where the person also does not enjoy the action. Hence, Eastwood (2007, 140) states that the usage of gerund with this verb suggests that we feel displeasure when we are doing some action.

56. *I'm no good at it and I **hate doing** things I'm no good at.' [BNC:1985-1994:W_fic_prose]*

57. *I don't feel ill, I'm fine, I'm just lazy, that's all. And I **hate going** to school. [COCA:2011:NewEnglandRev]*

Verb *love* is in vast majority used with *to-infinitive*. However, this construction is in vast majority preceded *by* operator *would*. Moreover, as it can be seen from the examples, the construction *love to* is usually connected with perception verbs.

58. *In exchange I'd **love to hear** what you know about Sabine Jourdain painting for Durance. [BNC:1985-1994:W_fict_prose]*

59. *Like, you know, Putin has that sort of machismo like you said, where he is shirtless on horseback, which you know we'd all **love to see** Donald like that.*

Gerund, on the other side, with this verb is mostly used, according these examples from BNC and COCA, when somebody feels pleasure to do something or some kind of action.

60. *Students **love watching** videos online and are extremely excited to see videos created by other students. [COCA:2014:KnowledgeQuest]*

61. *It drives my wife crazy, but I **love doing** nothing. [BNC:1985-1994:W_pop_lore]*

As it was stated previously, the *gerund* with these verbs is usually used when we talk about actuality and "when the speaker referring to something which definitely happens or has happened." (Quirk et al. 2004, 1192) However, I would rather use the definition from Eastwood (2007, 140), where he suggests that we feel pleasure or when we are doing some action.

62.   *I can't always follow the story in films and that, but sometimes I **like watching** the telly -- specially nature programmes and that. [BNC:1985-1994:W_fict_prose]*

63.   *I'm certainly not shy, but **I like playing** it because I love those characters who are incredibly confident but really still a mess. [COCA:2013:USAToday]*

According to Huddleston and Pullum (2009, 1242) "the infinitival is more associated with change, the gerund participle with actuality." Nevertheless, this definition is not suitable for any of these examples. The COCA example suggests that it would be great to think that they do not make mistakes, although they do. The BNC example support the statement by Eastwood (2007, 140) that the verb like is connected to some kind of pleasure.

64.   *I **like to think** that we screen well, but we do make mistakes. [COCA:2015:ABC]*

65.   *Nice and warm in here and **I like to see** so many people. They're busier than usual, I suppose. [BNC:1985-1994:W_fict_prose]*

8.3 Verb TRY*:*

The meaning of the construction with verb *try* followed by *gerund* is used for making effort − "involves effort towards a goal" (Huddleston and Pullum 2009, 1243). The COCA example is focused on the person who made an effort to lift balls into the machine. In the BNC example, the person should make an effort make his own flags.

66.   ***Try using** your energy to lift balls into the machine at the Energizer Wheel located in the Emerson Lobby. [COCA:2014:NaturalHistory]*

67.   *If you're feeling really adventurous **try making** your own flags using dowelling and cotton cloth or strong paper. [BNC:1985-1994:W_pop_lore]*

The usage of *to-infinitive* is in COCA the highest one from all verbs listed in the table, due to the fact that the frequency of the result is 124 206. Even though that the usage of the construction with *to-infinitive* in BNC comparing to COCA is significantly lower, still it is

the most frequently used complementation of the verb *try* in BrE. The meaning, which suggest the *to-infinitive*, is that it "indicates actual activity" (Huddleston and Pullum 2009, 1243). In example from BNC the man wanted to get a job but he was not accepted, even if he took an action. The same can be said about the example from COCA where the officers did their job to keep a peace in the neighbourhood.

> 68. *I had to go out to work. He __tried to get__ a job but he couldn't. I worked as a dress machinist. [BNC:1985-1994:W_non_ac_soc_science]*

> 69. *You had officers out there who were __trying to keep__ the peace and get a neighbourhood put back together that's been torn apart by what happened in August. [COCA:2015:Fox]*

8.4 Aspectual verbs (begin, start)

According to Quirk et al. (2004, 1192) gerund is preferred where "multiple activities are involved". Moreover, the gerund is used for ongoing activity. (Huddleston and Pullum 2009,1241) If we look closely on these two examples from COCA and BNC the definitions given by Quirk et al. or Huddleston and Pullum are not appropriate. In both cases, the *gerund* is used for purpose to imply since when something began happening.

> 70. *I __began selling__ cars at the age of nineteen. [COCA:2013:Comentary]*

> 71. *Well, I __began playing__ guitar professionally when I was about 15 or 16 years old, and was recording albums by the time I was 17. [BNC:1985-1994:W_pop_lore]*

However, the *to-infinitive* is rather used in static situation. (Huddleston and Pullum 2009,1241). It can be specify that the *infinitive* is rather used for one specific event, which can be seen in these two examples. Verb *begin* is in these two examples from COCA and BNC used to indicate a motion.

72. *The navitar**began to move** through the water with a rhythmic motion. [COCA:2013:FantasySciFi]*

73. *Jed saw Carol at the end of the corridor and **began to walk** towards her. [BNC:1985-1994:W_fict_prose]*

Quirk et al. suggest that the usage of the verb start with either *to-infinitive* or *gerund* depends on the action we wanted to express. *To-infinitive* is rather used with "potentiality", while the *gerund* is used rather for "performance". (Quirk et al. 2004, 1192) If we considered these four examples, the definition given by Quirk et al. cannot be supported. Both in BrE and AmE, the difference between usage of *gerund* or *to-infinitive* is insignificant. In every of these four examples is a performance and it does not depend on the usage of non-finite complementation.

74. *We really hit it off and I **started working** almost exclusively with her because we had found our own special form of communication called in' Tinglish' (a crazy mix of Thai and English). [BNC:1985-1994:W_pop_lore]*

75. *And when you **start talking** about bending the rules, then suddenly sports isn't fun to follow. [COCA:2015:NBC]*

76. *She **started to cry**, a silent ugly weeping that made him feel small and embarrassed. [COCA:2014:NewEnglandRev]*

77. *Six months later Jez has **started to walk** again. [BNC:1985-1994:W_news_script]*

CONCLUSION

This bachelor thesis dealt with non-finite complementation of verbs. The aim of the bachelor thesis was to find out the frequencies of certain non-finite complementation of certain verbs in British National Corpus and Corpus of Contemporary English. Catenative verbs which were examined were those which, according to Quirk et al. and Huddleston and Pullum, do not have change in meaning or have a change in meaning.

The second chapter of my practical part were catenative verbs which do not have change meaning were examined in BNC and COCA. The research proved that all of these verbs, except of the verb *confess*, can be used either with *to-infinitive* or *gerund*. Moreover, it was also proved that verbs like: *acknowledge, commence, confess* and *loathe* are not so frequently used in American English nor in British English. Furthermore, the research showed that the vast majority of non-finite complementation is done by *to-infinitive*. However, verbs such as: *admit, commence* or *recommend* are by vast majority followed by *gerund.* The research also pointed out the differences in BrE and AmE, for instance, verb *acknowledge* is in BrE mostly followed by *to-infinitive,* while the AmE tend to use *gerund* after this verb.

The last chapter of my practical part focused on the catenative verbs which have change in meaning. As well as with catenative verbs with no change in meaning, the research was conducted from BNC and COCA. It has been proven that sometimes the definitions given by Quirk et al. and Huddleston and Pullum differ from its usage in corpora. For example, Quirk et al. (2004,1193) define that retrospective verb which can be followed by *gerund* "refers to preceding event or occasion coming to mind", however, the research showed that if the verb *forget* is used with gerund, it can imply a possibility to forget about old habit and rather try something new.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Aarts, Bas. 2011. *Oxford Modern English Grammar*. 1st pub. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Carnie, Andrew. 2013. *Syntax: A Generative Introduction*. 3rd ed. Chichester, West Sussex: Wiley-Blackwell.

Crystal, David. 2003. *The Cambridge EncyclopediaOf The English Language*. 2nd ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Davies, Mark. (2004-)*BYU-BNC*.(Based on the British National Corpus from Oxford University Press).Available online at http://corpus.byu.edu/bnc/.

Davies, Mark. (2008-) *The Corpus of Contemporary American English: 450 million words, 1990-present.*Available online at http://corpus.byu.edu/coca/.

Dušková, Libuše. 1994. *MluvniceSoučasnéAngličtiny Na PozadíČeštiny*. 2. vyd. Praha: Academia.

Eastwood, John. 2005. *Oxford Learner's Grammar: Grammar Finder*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Greenbaum, Sidney, and Randolph Quirk. 1990. *A Student's Grammar Of The English Language*. 1st ed. Harlow: Longman.

Huddleston, Rodney, and Geoffrey K. Pullum. 2005. *A Student's Introduction to English Grammar.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Quirk, Randolph, et al. 1985.A *Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language.* London: Longman.

Radford, Andrew. 2004. *English Syntax: An Introduction*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Tallerman, Maggie. 2005. *Understanding Syntax*. 2nd ed. London: Hodder Education.

University Press).

Yadurajan, K.S. 2014.*Modern English Grammar: Structure, Meanings, and Usage*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

LIST OF TABLES