

第五篇 助動詞 (Auxiliary Verb)

主動詞之前形成動詞的否定、疑問、時態、語法、語態或表示特殊意義的動詞稱為助動詞。如：

am, is, are, was, were, have, has, had, do, does, did, shall, should, will, would, can, could, may, might, must, ought, need, dare, used 和 had better。

1. 助動詞的分類 —— 爲了便於說明起見，本書將助動詞分成兩類

1. 兼用助動詞 —— 既可作助動詞用又可作主動詞用的動詞稱為兼用助動詞。計有 am, is, are, was, were, have, has, had, do, does, did, need, dare, used。

助動詞	主動詞
(1) She is reading the newspaper. (她在看報。)	She is a teacher. (她是教員。)
(2) She does not speak English. (她不講英語。)	She does her work carefully. (她工作很仔細。)
(3) We have to eat to live. (我們必須為生而食。)	I have a cold. (我感冒。)
(4) You needn't wait for me. (你不必等我。)	You need a new coat. (你需要一件新外套。)
(5) Dare you swim across? (你敢不敢游過去?)	I dare you to do it! (量你也不敢!)
(6) We used to live here. (我們過去住在這裡。)	We used a knife to cut it. (我們用小刀切的。)

2. 專用助動詞 —— 只可作助動詞用不可作主動詞用的動詞稱為專用助動詞。計有：

shall, should, will, would, can, could, may, might, must, ought, had better。如：

- (1) She **can** speak English well. (她英文說得很好。)
- (2) This popular song **may** be heard everywhere.
(這首流行歌曲到處聽得到。)
- (3) Such things **ought not to be allowed, ought they?**
(這類事情不該被許可，對不對?)

2. 助動詞的特徵

1. 專用助動詞沒有人稱與數的變化 —— 主詞是第三人稱單數時字尾不加 s。如：

- (1) I (or You, He, We, They) **must** work hard next term.
(我〔你，他，我們，他們〕下學期必須努力讀書。)
- (2) You can swim and he $\begin{cases} \text{cans } (\times) \\ \text{can } (\checkmark) \end{cases}$ swim, too.
(你會游泳，他也會游泳。)

2. 專用助動詞中除 **ought** 外都是接沒有 **to** 的不定詞。如：

- (1) Boys will $\begin{cases} \text{to be } (\times) \\ \text{be } (\checkmark) \end{cases}$ boys.
(男孩子總是男孩子。—— 男孩子總是會淘氣的。)
- (2) “Shall I $\begin{cases} \text{to be } (\times) \\ \text{be } (\checkmark) \end{cases}$ in time?” he asked himself, looking at his watch.
(「我會不會來得及呢？」他問自己，接著看看他的錶。)
- (3) You $\begin{cases} \text{ought study } (\times) \\ \text{ought to study } (\checkmark) \end{cases}$ hard. (你應該努力讀書。)

3. 兼用助動詞之後的不定詞 —— 有的有 **to**，有的則無。

A. **do** 之後的不定詞沒有 **to**。如：

- (1) “**Do write** to me as often as you can,” said his wife.
(「一定要儘可能地常給我寫信，」他的太太說。)
- (2) **Why do you ask me? Why don't you ask your wife?**
(你為什麼問我？為什麼不問你太太?)

(3) She **doesn't like** wine, but she **does like** coffee.

(她不喜歡葡萄酒，但很喜歡咖啡。)

B. **be, have** 和 **used** 之後的不定詞有 **to**。如：

(1) He said that if anyone rang up, I **was to say** he'd be back shortly.

(= He told me to say that he'd be back shortly if anyone rang up.)

(他說如果有人打電話來，我就說他很快就會回來。)

(2) He **had to go** to the dentist the following day as he had an appointment.

(他因為有約第二天非去看牙醫不可。)

(3) She **used to dislike** him but she quite likes him now.

(她過去不喜歡他，但現在很喜歡他。)

C. **need** 和 **dare** 之後接 **not** 以及放在主詞之前形成疑問句時，後接無 **to** 不定詞。如：

(1) I **needn't get up** till eight tomorrow.

(我明天不必在八點前起床。)

(2) “**Need I eat it all**, Mummy?” said the child.

(「我是不是要全吃完，媽咪？」這孩子問。)

“Yes, dear, you must,” she said.

(「是的，親愛的，你必須吃完，」她說。)

(3) A: **Dare you swim across?** (你敢不敢游過去?)

B: I **daren't do it.** (我不敢。)

註：與 **do** 結合時，**need / dare** 是主動詞而非助動詞，後接有 **to** 不定詞。如：

① He **didn't need to wait** for me. (他不必等我。)

② He **doesn't dare (to) interrupt.** (他不敢插嘴。)

英語中也可以無 **to**，為了安全起見，最好接有 **to** 不定詞。

4. 所有助動詞之後接 **not** 形成了否定。如：

(1) I **cannot see** the blackboard when I sit in the back row.

(我坐在後排時看不見黑板。)

can 的否定可以寫成 cannot, can not 或 can't。

(2) I **don't** feel good. I think I'm catching a cold.

(我感覺不太好。我想我要感冒了。)

(3) She **usedn't** to like him but she quite likes him now.

(= She used to dislike him)

(她過去不喜歡他但現在很喜歡他。)

(4) You **had better not** go there alone. (你最好不要單獨去那兒。)

5. 在口語中，助動詞通常都用省略式 (contraction) :

A. 主詞和肯定的助動詞 (包括 be / have 動詞) 形成肯定的省略式 —— “'s” 可能是 is，也可能是 has；“'d” 可能是 had，也可能是 would；“'ll” 可能是 shall，也可能是 will。如：

(1) **You'd** (= **You had**) better ask him first. (你最好先問他。)

(2) **I'd** (= **I would**) rather read a book than go to class.

(我寧願看書不願去上課。)

(3) **He's** (= **He is**) only joking. Don't believe him.

(他只是在開玩笑，別相信他。)

(4) **He's** (= **He has**) had a lot of bad luck lately.

(最近他運氣糟透了。)

(5) **I'll** (= **I shall**) be 55 next week. (下星期我就五十五歲了。)

(6) Don't bother. **I'll** (= **I will**) drive you.

(別擔心。我會開車送你。)

B. 在否定句裡，通常都是在助動詞的字尾加 n't 或 't 而成 —— be 和 have 既可和主詞合成一個字 (如 he's not seen it) 也可和 not 合成一個字 (如 he hasn't seen it)。如：

(1) The window **can't** be opened. (這窗子打不開。)

(2) A: Why are you here so early? (你為什麼來這麼早?)

B: Sunny told me that the party started at seven o'clock.

(桑妮告訴我聚會七點開始。)

A: No, it **doesn't** start until eight o'clock. You must have misunderstood.

(不，八點才開始。你一定是誤會了。)

(3) A: Hello, may I speak to Sunny?

(喂，我可不可以和桑妮講話?)

B: I'm sorry, you must have the wrong number (or I'm sorry. I'm afraid you have the wrong number.)

(對不起你一定是撥錯了號碼。)

A: Is this 123-4567? (你那裡是不是 123-4567?)

B: No, **it's not** (or **it isn't**). This is 321-4567.

(不，不是。這裡是 321-4567。)

(4) A: Have you had breakfast? (你有沒有吃過早飯?)

B: No, I **haven't** had (or **I've not** had) it yet. (我還沒吃。)

6. 簡答句裡若是肯定，不可用省略式，否定則可。如：

(1) A: Is that your mother? (那是不是你的母親?)

B: Yes, $\begin{cases} \text{it's.} (\times) \\ \text{it is.} (\checkmark) \end{cases}$ (是的。)

or: No, $\begin{cases} \text{it isn't.} (\checkmark) \\ \text{it's not.} (\checkmark) \end{cases}$ (不是的。)

或問：以上兩句裡的主詞為什麼用 it 不用 she？參閱第二冊裡的“人稱代名詞 it 的用法 11。”即可得到答案。

(2) A: Has Sunny come yet? (桑妮已經來了沒有?)

B: Yes, $\begin{cases} \text{she's.} (\times) \\ \text{she has.} (\checkmark) \end{cases}$ (她已經來了。)

or: No, $\begin{cases} \text{she hasn't.} (\checkmark) \\ \text{she's not.} (\checkmark) \end{cases}$ (她還沒來。)

(3) A: Will she lend the money to you? (她願不願意把錢借給你?)

B: Yes, $\begin{cases} \text{she'll.} (\times) \\ \text{she will.} (\checkmark) \end{cases}$ (她願意。)

or: **No, she won't.** (她不願意。)

註：如果答句中並未止於助動詞，後面還接有其他詞語（不定詞等），即使是肯定也可用省略式。如：

A: **Would you like to come with us?** (你想不想和我們一起去?)

B: **I'd like to** very much (or **I'd love to**). (我非常想。)

7. 過去形助動詞未必指過去 —— 可能是指現在或未來。

除了上下文顯示出是談到過去的事情外，過去形的助動詞（如 **could, might, would, should**）都不是指過去，而是指現在或未來。如：

(1) A: **Could (or May, Might) I use your pen?**

(我可不可以用一下你的筆?)

B: **Certainly (or Yes, certainly, Of course, Yes, of course).**

(當然可以。)

Could I 和 **May I** 同樣很有禮貌，後者多用於正式的場合。
Might 比較少用。

也可用 **Can I**，是比較不拘禮的用語，多用於很熟的人之間。

比較：**I could swim when I was young.** (我年輕的時候會游泳。)

(2) A: **Would (or Will, Could, Can) you pass me the sugar?**

(請你把糖遞給我好嗎?)

Would you? 比 **Will you?** 稍微有禮貌一點，但不一定如此，說話時的語調也有關係。**Could you?** 和 **Would you?** 相似，但有時候 **Could you** 除了請托之外，還帶有“不可能”的含義。**Can you?** 是不必拘禮的用語。

B: **Yes, I'd be happy (glad) to.** (好的，我很樂意。)

回答 **Can you?** 時，用 **Certainly (Sure)** 已足。**sure** 是美語，英語用 **surely**。

(3) **Could we meet again tomorrow?** (我們明天可不可能再見面?)

(4) **Would you take me to the airport tomorrow morning?**

(請你明天早晨載我去機場好嗎?)

(5) **That should be Mary coming upstairs now.**

(那應該是瑪麗現在上樓來了。)

(6) The bus **should** be here soon. (公車應該很快就會到這裡。)

(7) A: Why isn't John in class? (約翰為什麼沒有來上課?)

B: I don't know. He **might** be sick. (我不知道，他也許病了。)

本答句是表示“猜測”，**might** 比 **may** 更覺沒有把握。**should** 表示有相當把握，**must** 表示最有把握。

以下四例中的助動詞從上下文可以顯示出是指過去：

(8) I **couldn't** wait any longer, because I **had** an appointment.

(我不能再等了，因為我有約會。)

(9) I **could** swim across this river when I was young.

(我年輕的時候能夠游過這條河。)

(10) Mary **said** that I **could** (or **might**) borrow her car.

(瑪麗說我可以借用她的車。)

(11) We all **tried** to stop him smoking in bed but he **would** do it.

(我們都盡力阻止過他在床上吸煙，但他偏要這麼做。)

本例中的 **would** 是表示固執的堅持。

以上所述可以說是助動詞所共有的幾點特徵。此外，還有些個別的差異，譬如某一個字只限於用在肯定句裡，至於疑問句與否定句，則必須用另一個字。再如，有的助動詞只有過去式，沒有現在式或未來式；也有的助動詞指過去時必須接完成式不定詞。這種種差異，都是因字而異，因此，為使讀者對於助動詞能有全盤的概念與明晰的認知，只得另闢園地逐字地說明於後。

一、Do

1. 作助動詞用 —— 本身沒有意義，但在文法上具有以下的作用

1. 形成疑問句與否定句：

沒有其他助動詞的一般動詞必須用 **do** 才能形成疑問句 (**Do** + 主詞 + 主動詞...?) 或否定句 (主詞 + **do not** + 主動詞...)。如：

(1) During their 25th wedding anniversary, a wife reminded her husband: "**Do you remember** when you proposed to me, I was so