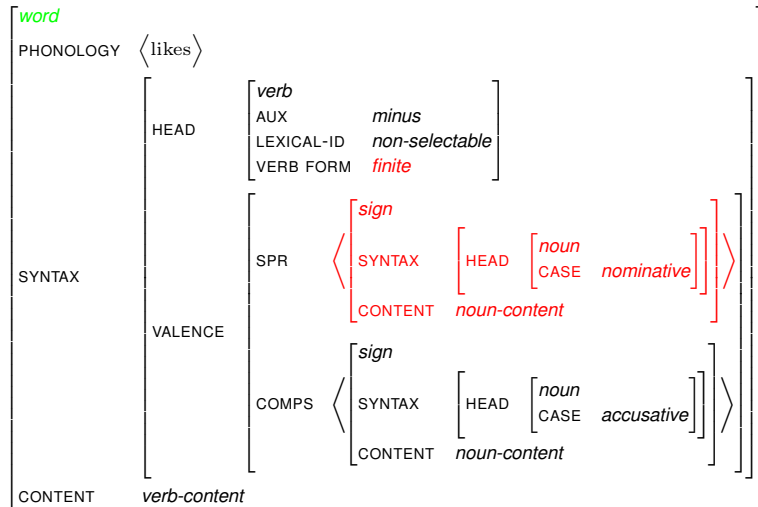# Grammar 26: Raising

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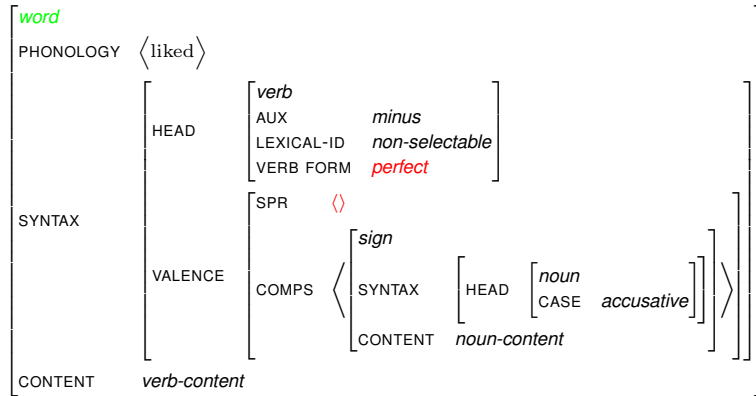
Difference between finite and non-finite verb words

Finite:

$$
\begin{bmatrix}
\textit{word} \\
\text{PHONOLOGY} \quad \langle \text{likes} \rangle \\
\text{SYNTAX} \quad
\begin{bmatrix}
\text{HEAD} \quad
\begin{bmatrix}
\textit{verb} \\
\text{AUX} \quad \textit{minus} \\
\text{LEXICAL-ID} \quad \textit{non-selectable} \\
\text{VERB FORM} \quad \textit{finite}
\end{bmatrix} \\
\text{VALENCE} \quad
\begin{bmatrix}
\text{SPR} \quad \left\langle
\begin{bmatrix}
\textit{sign} \\
\text{SYNTAX} \quad \left[\text{HEAD} \begin{bmatrix} \textit{noun} \\ \text{CASE} \quad \textit{nominative} \end{bmatrix} \right] \\
\text{CONTENT} \quad \textit{noun-content}
\end{bmatrix}
\right\rangle \\
\text{COMPS} \quad \left\langle
\begin{bmatrix}
\textit{sign} \\
\text{SYNTAX} \quad \left[\text{HEAD} \begin{bmatrix} \textit{noun} \\ \text{CASE} \quad \textit{accusative} \end{bmatrix} \right] \\
\text{CONTENT} \quad \textit{noun-content}
\end{bmatrix}
\right\rangle
\end{bmatrix}
\end{bmatrix} \\
\text{CONTENT} \quad \textit{verb-content}
\end{bmatrix}
$$

Difference between finite and non-finite verb words

Non-finite:

$$
\begin{bmatrix}
\textit{word} \\
\text{PHONOLOGY} \quad \langle \text{liked} \rangle \\
\text{SYNTAX} \quad
\begin{bmatrix}
\text{HEAD} \quad
\begin{bmatrix}
\textit{verb} \\
\text{AUX} \quad \textit{minus} \\
\text{LEXICAL-ID} \quad \textit{non-selectable} \\
\text{VERB FORM} \quad \textit{perfect}
\end{bmatrix} \\
\text{VALENCE} \quad
\begin{bmatrix}
\text{SPR} \quad \langle \rangle \\
\text{COMPS} \quad \left\langle
\begin{bmatrix}
\textit{sign} \\
\text{SYNTAX} \quad
\begin{bmatrix}
\text{HEAD} \quad
\begin{bmatrix}
\textit{noun} \\
\text{CASE} \quad \textit{accusative}
\end{bmatrix}
\end{bmatrix} \\
\text{CONTENT} \quad \textit{noun-content}
\end{bmatrix}
\right\rangle
\end{bmatrix}
\end{bmatrix} \\
\text{CONTENT} \quad \textit{verb-content}
\end{bmatrix}
$$

Consequence

This means that all syntactic and semantic requirements that non-finite verbs impose on their subjects get lost, when those verbs are embedded under an auxiliary!

Only meaningless expressions:
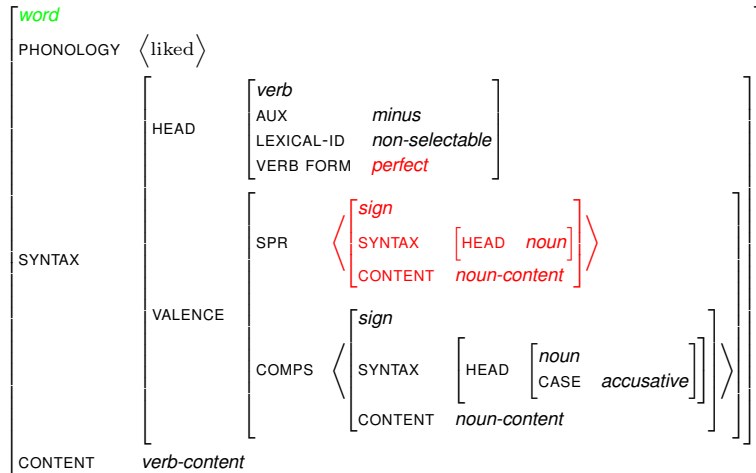
(1) a. X rains.
    b. X was raining.

(2) a. X smokes.
    b. X was smoking.

Conclusions:

1. Auxiliaries need to "raise" the specifier requirements of the verbs embedded under them to the auxiliary's own subject.
2. For that to be possible, non-finite verbs also must have a non-empty specifier value.

Revised lexical entry of non-finite verb words

Non-finite:

$$
\begin{bmatrix}
\textit{word} \\
\text{PHONOLOGY} \quad \langle \text{liked} \rangle \\[4pt]
\text{SYNTAX} \quad
\begin{bmatrix}
\text{HEAD} \quad
\begin{bmatrix}
\textit{verb} \\
\text{AUX} \quad \textit{minus} \\
\text{LEXICAL-ID} \quad \textit{non-selectable} \\
\text{VERB FORM} \quad \textit{perfect}
\end{bmatrix} \\[10pt]
\text{VALENCE}
\begin{bmatrix}
\text{SPR} \quad \left\langle
\begin{bmatrix}
\textit{sign} \\
\text{SYNTAX} \quad [\text{HEAD} \quad \textit{noun}] \\
\text{CONTENT} \quad \textit{noun-content}
\end{bmatrix}
\right\rangle \\[14pt]
\text{COMPS} \quad \left\langle
\begin{bmatrix}
\textit{sign} \\
\text{SYNTAX} \quad
\begin{bmatrix}
\text{HEAD} \quad
\begin{bmatrix}
\textit{noun} \\
\text{CASE} \quad \textit{accusative}
\end{bmatrix}
\end{bmatrix} \\
\text{CONTENT} \quad \textit{noun-content}
\end{bmatrix}
\right\rangle
\end{bmatrix}
\end{bmatrix} \\[10pt]
\text{CONTENT} \quad \textit{verb-content}
\end{bmatrix}
$$

Lexical entry of an auxiliary illustrating raising

$$
\begin{bmatrix}
\textit{word} \\
\text{PHONOLOGY} \quad \langle \text{has} \rangle \\
\text{SYNTAX} \quad
\begin{bmatrix}
\text{HEAD} \quad
\begin{bmatrix}
\textit{verb} \\
\text{AUX} \quad \textit{plus} \\
\text{LEXICAL-ID} \quad \textit{non-selectable} \\
\text{VERB FORM} \quad \textit{finite}
\end{bmatrix} \\
\text{VALENCE} \quad
\begin{bmatrix}
\text{SPR} \quad \langle \boxed{1} \rangle \\
\text{COMPS} \quad \left\langle
\begin{bmatrix}
\textit{sign} \\
\text{SYNTAX} \quad
\begin{bmatrix}
\text{HEAD} \quad
\begin{bmatrix}
\textit{verb} \\
\text{VERB FORM} \quad \textit{perfect}
\end{bmatrix} \\
\text{VALENCE} \quad
\begin{bmatrix}
\text{SPR} \quad \langle \boxed{1} \rangle \\
\text{COMPS} \quad \langle\rangle
\end{bmatrix}
\end{bmatrix} \\
\text{CONTENT} \quad \textit{verb-content}
\end{bmatrix}
\right\rangle
\end{bmatrix}
\end{bmatrix} \\
\text{CONTENT} \quad \textit{verb-content}
\end{bmatrix}
$$