

The Verb in Modern English

The Plan of the discussion

1. General characteristics of the verb as a part of speech
2. The morphological classification
3. The functional classification
4. The semantic classifications

(a) A lexico-grammatical meaning is the expression of *process* presented dynamically.

(b) The stem-building suffixes

-fy re- out-

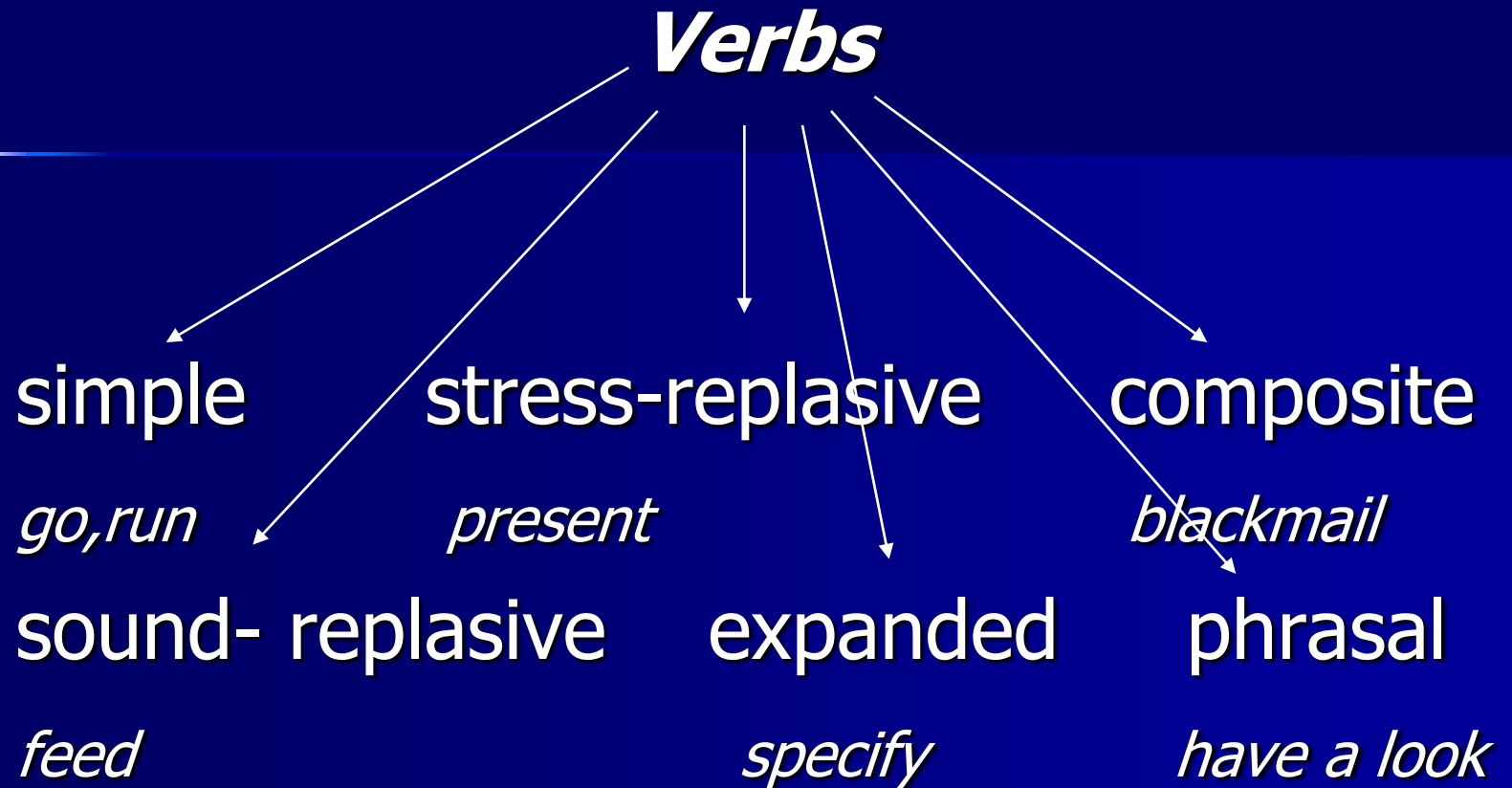
-ize over- sub-

-ate dis- mis-

-en under- un-

(c) The function is a predicate.

The morphological classification



Verbs

Regular
(weak)

Irregular
(strong)

root
vowel

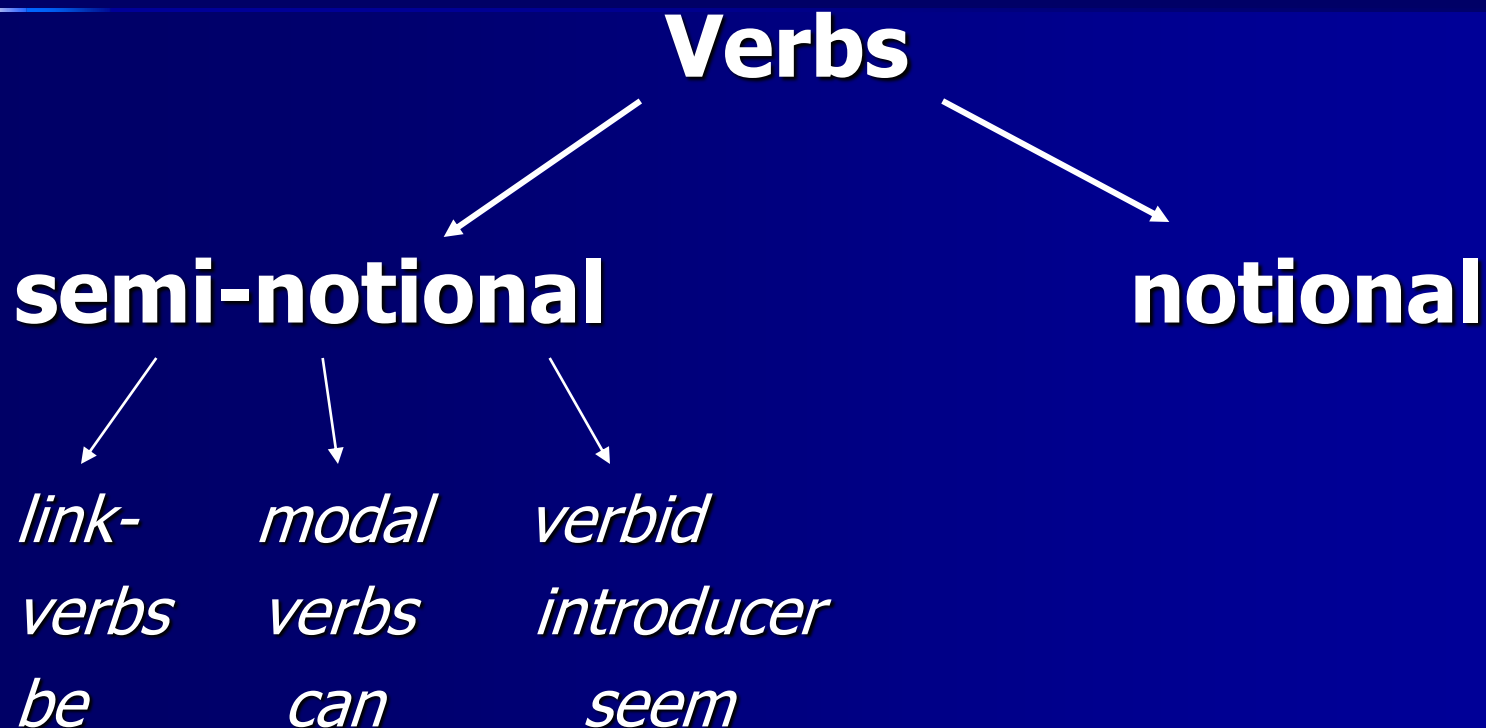
homonymic
forms

suppletively

root
vowel+[t,d]

The functional classification

According to semantic features



The semantic classifications

Verbs

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graph TD; Verbs --> actional; Verbs --> statal; actional --- actional_examples["do, act, perform"]; statal --- statal_examples["worry, rejoice, stand"];
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actional

do, act, perform

statal

worry, rejoice, stand

The process

1. durative
2. iterative
3. terminative
4. interminate
5. ingressive
6. instantaneous
7. overcompleted
8. undercompleted

Verbs

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graph TD; Verbs --> Terminative["terminative (limitive)"]; Verbs --> NonTerminative["non-terminative (unlimitive)"]; Terminative --- Examples1["find, start, stop"]; NonTerminative --- Examples2["be, exist, love"]; TheSyntacticValency["The syntactic valency"] --> Obligatory; TheSyntacticValency --> Optional;
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terminative
(limitive)
find, start, stop

non-terminative
(unlimitive)
be, exist, love

The syntactic valency

obligatory

optional