



# ENGLISH GRAMMAR 2 INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

Unit 51 – Auxiliary verbs

*tienganh*



# Auxiliary verbs

## INTRODUCTION

A

In these sentences there is an auxiliary verb and a main verb:

	Axiliary	Main	
I	have	lost	my keys.
She	can't	come	to the party.
The hotel	was	built	ten years ago.
Why	do you	want	to go home.

**have/can't/was/do** are auxiliary (= helping) verbs.

You can use an auxiliary verb when you don't want to repeat something:

- EX1: 'Have you locked the door?' 'Yes, I **have**.'  
(= I have locked the door)
- EX2: Gary wasn't working, but Laura **was**.  
(= Laura was working)
- EX3: Jessica could lend me the money, but she **won't**.  
(= she won't lend me the money)

**We use do/does/did for the present and past simple:**

- EX4: 'Do you like onions?' 'Yes, I **do**.'  
(= I like onions)
- EX5: 'Does Simon live in London?' 'He **did**, but he **doesn't** any more.'

**You can use auxiliary verbs to deny what somebody says (= say it is not true):**

- EX6: 'You're sitting in my place.' 'No, I'm **not**.'  
(= I'm not sitting in your place)
- EX7: 'You didn't lock the door before you left.' 'Yes, I **did**.'  
(= I locked the door)

# Auxiliary verbs

## SHORT QUESTION

B

We use **have you? / isn't she? / are they? etc.** to show that we are interested in what somebody

has said, or to show surprise:

- EX8: 'I've just seen Steven.' 'Oh, **have you?** How is he?'
- EX9: 'Lisa isn't very well today.' '**Isn't she?** What's wrong with her?'
- EX10: 'It rained every day during our holiday.' '**Did it?** What a shame!'
- EX11: 'James and Tanya are getting married.' '**Are they?** Really?'

# Auxiliary verbs

## SO AND NEITHER

C

We use auxiliary verbs with **so** and **neither**:

- EX12: 'I'm tired.' 'So am I.' (= I'm tired too)
- EX13: 'I never read newspapers.' 'Neither do I.' (= I never read newspapers either)
- EX14: Sarah can't drive and neither can Mark.

Note the word order after **so** and **neither** (verb before subject):

- EX15: I passed the exam and so did Paul. (not so Paul did)

Instead of **neither**, you can use **nor**. You can also use **not ... either**:

- EX16: 'I don't know.' 'Neither do I.' or 'Nor do I.' or 'I don't either.'

# Auxiliary verbs

## I THINK SO / I SUPPOSE SO ETC.

D

❖ You can say **I think so / I suppose so etc.** when we don't want to repeat something:

- EX17: 'Are those people Korean?' 'I think so.' (= I think they are Korean)
- EX18: 'Is Kate working tomorrow?' 'I suppose so.' (= I suppose she is working tomorrow)
- EX19: 'Will you be at home this evening?' 'I expect so.' (= I expect I'll be at home ...)

❖ In the same way we say: **I hope so, I guess so and I'm afraid so.**

The usual negative forms are:

I think so / I expect so → I don't think so / I don't expect so

I hope so / I'm afraid so → I hope not / I'm afraid not

I guess so / I suppose so → I guess not / I suppose not

- EX20: 'Is that woman American?' 'I think so. / I don't think so.'
- EX21: 'Do you think it will rain?' 'I hope so. / I hope not.' (not I don't hope so)

# Auxiliary verbs

## BÀI TẬP NHANH

Complete each sentence with an auxiliary verb (do/was/could/might etc.).

Sometimes the verb must be negative (don't/wasn't etc.).

I wasn't tired, but my friends \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. are
- B. was
- C. were
- D. were so

# Auxiliary verbs

## TÓM TẮT

1. Các trợ động từ như **have, can, do, be, v.v...** là các động từ “**hỗ trợ**” các động từ khác. Chúng ta dùng trợ động từ trong các trường hợp sau:
  - Tránh lặp lại động từ chính: ‘**Have you locked the door?**’ ‘**Yes, I have.**’
  - Xác nhận / phủ nhận điều người khác nói. ‘**You’re sitting in my place.**’ ‘**No, I’m not.**’
  - Thể hiện sự quan tâm hay ngạc nhiên về điều người khác nói. ‘**I’ve just seen Steven.**’ ‘**Oh, have you? How is he?**’
2. Chúng ta cũng dùng các trợ động từ với “**So,**” “**Neither,**” “**Nor**” trong các cấu trúc đảo ngữ (đảo trợ động từ lên trước chủ ngữ) để nói tắt. ‘**I don’t know.**’ ‘**Neither do I.**’ or ‘**Nor do I.**’ or ‘**I don’t either.**’
3. **So** cũng thường được dùng trong các mẫu câu **I think so, I suppose so** để tránh lặp lại nội dung đang thảo luận. ‘**Is Kate working tomorrow?**’ ‘**I suppose so.**’
4. Các động từ khác có thể dùng theo cách này là **expect, hope, guess, be afraid. I guess so / I guess not**