

## Chapter 8: Non-finite Clauses

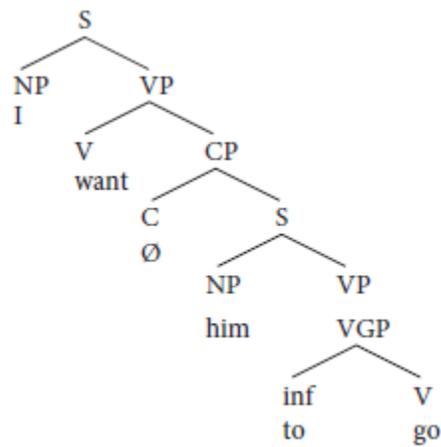
- A non-finite clause does not contain a finite element (finite verb), i.e. verb does not reflect subject verb agreement, tense, or voice\*.
- I) Forms of non-finite clauses:
- 1- Preceded by Infinitive to: I told her [to go] / In order [to understand] grammar, they read the book
  - 2- Bare Infinitive: She made him [leave]
  - 3- + ing: [Walking down the road], I saw the leaves fall
  - 4- + ed: Arrested last night, she is in prison now.
- II) Functions of non-finite clauses:
- 1- Direct Object:
    - A. I expected (for her) [her to go](I expected [that she would go])
  - 2- Subject: [Walking/To walk at night] is nice
  - 3- Subject Predicate: The problem is [to decide on a date for the exam]
  - 4- Adverbial: They went to class [to study English]

### Notes:

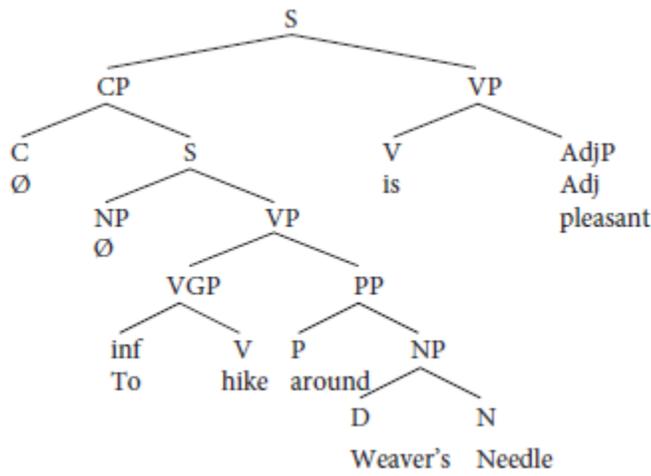
- Subject of non-finite clause can take accusative case due to lack of s/v agreement: I want [him] to go.
- Prescriptive grammarians prefer genitive case to accusative case in non-finite subjects: She couldn't bear to see his suffering VS She couldn't bear to see the suffering of him\*
- Can be extraposed: It is nice [to hike around Weaver's Needle].

**Table 8.1. Embedded clauses**

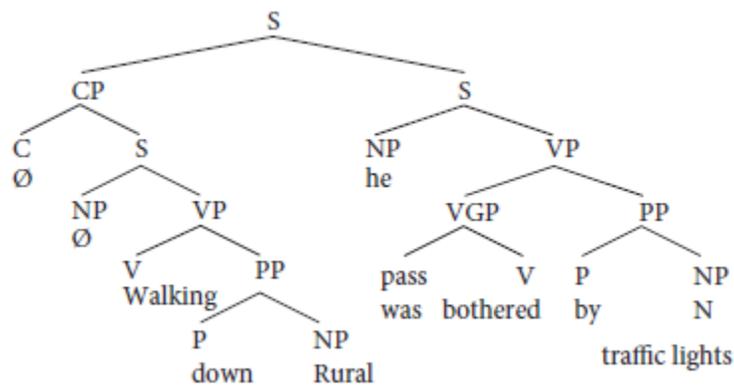
		Example	C	Function
Finite		(2)	<i>that, because, etc</i>	broad
Non-Finite	infinitive	(1)	<i>sometimes: for, as in (4); in order, as in (5)</i>	broad
	bare-infinitive	(3)	<i>no</i>	narrow
	present participle	(6)	<i>while, after, before</i>	broad
	past participle	(7)	<i>when, where</i>	narrow



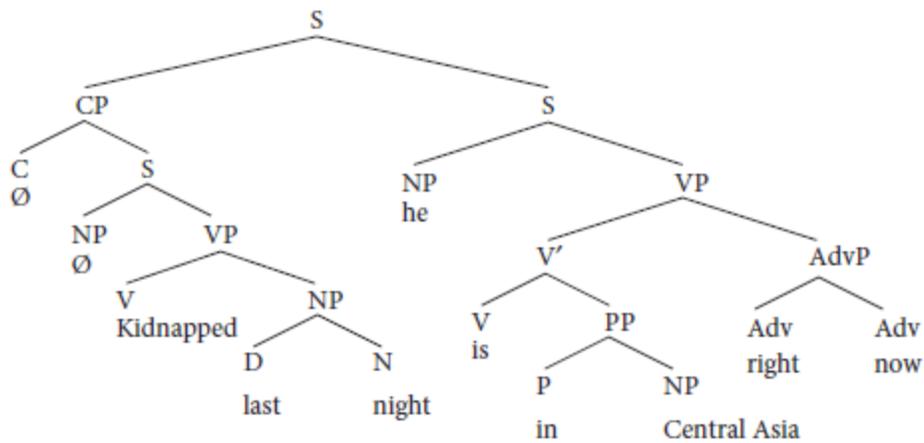
(Infinitive to- D.O)



(Infinitive to- Subject)



(Verb+ing – Adverbial)



(Verb+ed – Adverbial)

**Table 8.2.** The non-finite CP

	To-infinitive	Present participle
Full CP	I want [for her to do well].	—
∅ C	I want [∅ her to do well].	I saw [∅ him crossing the street].
C ∅ NP	*I want [for ∅ to do well]. <sup>6</sup>	[While ∅ doing that], she fell.
∅ C ∅ NP	I want [∅ ∅ to do well].	I like [∅ ∅ doing well].

III) Coordinated Non-finite clauses:

