LIST OF ENGLISH VERB CONSTRUCTION TYPES

Mary Esther Kropp Dakubu

This list is built on the Norwegian list included in SLAVOB 6.3

**Intransitive:**

\[v\text{-intr}\mid suAg\mid ACTIVITY\]

*the boy jumps*
DEF boy-DEF jump-SG.PRES

\[v\text{-intr}\mid suAg\mid SEMELFACTIVE\]

*the boy jumps*
DEF boy jump-SG.PRES

\[v\text{-intr}\mid suAg\mid COMPLETEDMONODEVMNT\]

Jack ate.
J eat-PAST

\[v\text{-intr}\mid suSens\mid PROTR-SENSATION\]

*the boy listens*
DEF boy listen-SG.PRES

\[v\text{-intr}\mid suTh\mid PROCESS\]

*the ice melts*
DEF ice melt-SG.PRES

\[v\text{-intr}\mid suTh\mid SUSTAINEDPHENOM\]

*the rain continued*
DEF rain continue-PST

\[v\text{-intr}\mid suThmover\mid MOTION\]

*the ball rolls*
DEF ball roll-SG.PRES

\[v\text{-intr}\mid suAbsGer\mid suThsit\mid ASSESS\]

getting money for political favours stinks
get-GER money for PREP political favours stink-SG.PRES

\[v\text{-intr}\mid suNrg\mid PHENOM\]

it rains
PRON.EXPL rain-PRES

\[v\text{-intrAdv}\mid suAg\mid ACHIEVEMENT\]

he functions well
3SG function-SG.PRES well

Jane writes badly
J write-3SG.PRES badly

\[v\text{-intrAdv}\mid suTh\mid PROPTY\]

The machine functions well
DET machine function-3SG.PRES well

\[v\text{-intrObl}\mid suAg\mid oblInstr\mid ACTIVITY\]

Jane wrote with a pen
J write-PST with DET pen

\[v\text{-intrObl}\mid suAg\mid oblTrgt\mid ACTIVITY\]

Jane wrote to John
J write-PST to J

\[v\text{-intrObl-oblEndpt}\mid suAgmover\mid MOTIONDIRECTED\]

John walked into the room
they grieved over the death

stars appear in the heavens

Jane believes in speaking her mind

the arrow points to the north

the road goes towards the north

the tour goes northwards

there goes the ball

Kathy thought I would come

Kathy wonders whether I will come

Kathy wonders who will come

it appears that he will come

it helps to sit down

it happens that the earth is round

it looks as if he did it

it is a question who comes

it is a question whether he can do it
their paths crossed  
He appears to come  
she nibbles at the apple  
she lives in London  
I talk about Jane  
he vomited on the tablecloth  
A crack appears in the glass  
Boston is in Massachusetts  
The town lies in the valley  
the book belongs to Jane  
who comes depends on you  
who comes depends on what you do  
whether he comes depends on you  
whether he comes depends on whether you come  
they talk about travelling to Mars  
they talk about it being too late
he hopes to come

we arranged for him to get a visa

we arranged for him to get a visa

it depends on you whether he will win

a man runs to here

he seems to me to be in a good mood

it clears up

the boy feels cold

my back feels cold

it is urgent that it gets tidied up

It is essential that he comes

there lived a man

there sits a man in the chair

There comes a time when nothing works

Jack keeps on

The rain keeps on

Jack kept on running

Jack kept on with his running
J keep-PST on with his running

v-intrScpr-scAdj|suThmover|EXHIBPROPTY
the water runs clear (formerly it didn’t)
DEF water run-3SG.PRES clear

v-intrScpr-scSuNrg_scAdj|EXHIBPROPTY
the boy seems sick
DEF boy seem-3SG.PRES sick

he seems to believe it
PRON.3SG seem-PRES INF believe it

v-intrScpr-scSuNrg_scAdj|EXHIBPROPTY
the boy seems sensible
boy-DEF seem-3SG.PRES sensible

v-intrScpr-scSuNrg_scInf|EXHIBPROPTY
the boy seems to be a leader
DEF boy seem-3SG.PRES INF be DET leader

v-intrScpr-scSuNrg_scPP|EXHIBPROPTY
the boy seems in good shape
DEF boy seem-3SG.PRES PREP good shape

v-intrScpr-scSuNrg_scPredprtcl|EXHIBPROPTY
the boy appears as a hero in the report
DEF boy appear-3SG.PRES as a hero PREP DEF report

v-intrScpr-scSuArgCsd_scAdv|suTh|CAUSATIONwithCAUSINGEVENT
the coffee boils away
DEF coffee boil-PRES away

v-intrScpr-scSuNrgCsd_scAdv|INCREMRESULT
the cup runs over
DEF cup run-3SG.PRES over

v-intrScpr-scSuNrgCsd_scAdv|INCREMRESULT
the shore eroded away
DEF shore erode-PAST away

v-intrScpr-scSuNrgCsd_scPP|CAUSATIONwithCAUSINGEVENT
the house burned to a cinder
DEF house burn-PAST PREP DET cinder

v-intrScpr-suNrg_scEquat|RESULT
it looks as though he came
3SG look-SG.PRES as though PRON.3SG come-PST

v-intrScpr-scAdj|suTh|PROPTYDYN
the house stands empty
DEF house stand-3SG.PRES empty
The property lay unattended
DEF property lie-PST unattended

v-intrLghtScpr-scsuNrg_scPredprtcl
the boy emerged as a suspect
DEF boy emerge-PST as DET suspect

v-intrLghtScpr-scSuNrgCsd_scAdj|INCREMRESULT
the company goes broke
DEF company go-3SG.PRES broke
v-intrPrtclScpr-scSuNrg_scAdj|EXHIBPROPTY
    The boy ended up sick
    DEF boy end-PST up sick
v-intrScpr-scSuNrg_scPredprtc|EXHIBPROPTY
    the boy sounds like a parrot
    DEF boy sound-3SG.PRES like DET parrot
v-intrObl|suAg_oblTrg|COMPARISON
    The boy runs like a donkey
    DEF boy run-3SG.PRES like DET donkey
v-intrWH|PHENOM
    A time comes when nothing works
    DET time come-3SG.PRES WH.time nothing work-3SG.PRES
v-intrAuxmodComp-compEqBareinf|suAg_compThsit
    Jane can paddle
    Jane can-PRES paddle
This template classifies the construction from the viewpoint of can being the head of the construction, and acting as an ‘equi’ verb, thus with a so-called ‘root’ interpretation. From a viewpoint more motivating the term ‘auxiliary verb’, an alternative template is axv_intr-av1mod, seeing paddle as the head, just being preceded by the modal.

v-intrAuxmodScpr-suDir_scSuNrg_scAdv
    he must go out
    PRON.3SG must go out

Transitive:

v-tr|suAg_oblAffincrem|MONODEVMNT
    she eats the apple
    PRON.3SG eat-PRES DEF apple
v-tr|suAg_obAff|CONTACTFORCEFUL
    Jack beats John
    Ja beat-3SG.PRES Jo
v-tr|suAg_obAffincrem|COMPLETED_MONODEVMNT
    Kathy ate the cake
    K. eat-PST DEF cake
v-tr|suAgmover_obPathobj|MOTIONALONGLINE
    Kathy follows the path
    K. follow-3SG PRES DEF path
v-tr|suAgmover_obAgmover|MOTIONCROSSPATHS
    the boy crosses the demonstration parade
    DEF boy cross-3SG.PRES DEF parade
v-tr|suAgmover_obEndpnt|MOTIONtoENDPT
    Kathy reaches the top
    K. reach-3SG.PRES DEF top
    John entered the room
v-tr|suAgmover_obStartpt|MOTIONDIRECTED
    Kathy left the room
v-tr|suAg_obEjct|EJECTION
    Kathy throws the ball
    K. throw-3SG.PRES DEF ball
v-tr|suAg_obEjctinobj|EJECTION
    she shoots plastic bullets
PRON.3SG shoot-3SG.PRES plastic bullets

v-tr | suAg_obEventcont | ACTIVITY
she sang a beautiful song
PRON.3SG sing-PST DET beautiful song

v-tr | suAg_obExp | EMOTIONCAUSED
Kathy frightens Jane
K. frighten-3SG.PRES J.

v-tr | suAgmover_obLengthcont | MOTIONEXTENDING
the boy walks two kilometers
DEF boy walk-3SG.PRES two kilometer-PL

v-tr | suAg_obTh | REPRESENTING
Kathy mentions Jane
K. mention-3SG.PRES J.

v-tr | suAg_obThincrem | COMPLETED_MONODEVMT
Kathy read the book
K. read-PST book-DEF

v-tr | suAg_obThmover | MOTIONCAUSED
Kathy sends the parcel
K. send-3SG.PRES DEF parcel

v-tr | suAgmover_obViapnt | MOTIONviaVIAPT
Kathy passes the church
K. pass-3SG.PRES DEF church

v-tr | suCog_obTh | COGNITION
Kathy knows the answer
K. know-3SG.PRES DEF answer

v-tr | suComitmover_obAgmover | MOTIONPARALLEL
the boy accompanies the president
DEF boy accompany-3SG.PRES DEF president

v-tr | suExp_obTrgt | EMOTION
Jane likes horses
J like-3SG.PRES horse-PL

v-tr | suOrientedline_obOrientedline | CROSSINGPATHS
the stroke cuts the line
DEF stroke cut-3SG.PRES DEF line

v-tr | suOrientedline_obOrientedline | PARALLELPATHS
the stroke follows the line
DEF stroke follow-3SG.PRES DEF line
The path follows the river
DEF path follow-3SG.PRES DEF river

v-tr | suPathobj_obEndpnt | EXTENSIONtoENDPT
the path reaches the top
DEF path reach-3SG.PRES DEF top

v-tr | suPathobj_obViapnt | EXTENSIONviaVIAPT
the path passes the church
DEF path pass-3SG.PRES DEF church

v-tr | suSens_obTh | SENSATION
Kathy sees Jane
K. see-3SG.PRES J.
Jack owns a car

an accident awaits him

the book depresses Jane

the track measures 400 meters

the stone hurt Jane

the film lasts 5 hours

the stone weighs 5 kg

he dressed the boy

he spilled water on the tablecloth

he spilled water on himself

he dressed himself

getting money for political favours disgusts me

getting money for political favours disgusts me

building highrises interests Kathy

My coming astonishes Kathy

Jane’s coming entails that you must come
Jane’s coming determines whether you come
J-POSS come-GER determine-3SG.PRES WH.YN PRON.2SG come

Who comes interests Kathy
WH.hum come-3SG.PRES interest-3SG.PRES K.

Who comes decides who will win
WH.Hum come-3SG.PRES decide-3SG.PRES WH.Hum FUT win

Whether I come interests Kathy
WH.YN PRON.1SG come-PRES interest-3SG.PRES K.

Kathy considers coming
K. consider-3SG.PRES come-GER

we arranged that he got a visa
PRON.1PL arrange-PST COMP PRON.3SG get-PST DET visa

Kathy knows that I came
K. know-3SG.PRES COMP PRON.1SG come-PST

I assume that he is qualified
PRON.1SG assume COMP he is qualified

Kathy sees that Jane sleeps
K. see-3SG.PRES COMP J. sleep-3SG.PRES

Kathy tries to come
K. try-3SG.PRES INF come

Kathy washes herself
K. wash-3SG.PRES REF PL

it worries me that he hasn’t come
PRON.EXPL worry-3SG.PRES PRON.1SG COMP PRON.3SG AUX-NEG come

it will not surprise me if he comes
PRON.EXPL FUT NEG surprise PRON.1SG CONJ PRON.3SG come-3SG.PRES

it pleases me to come
PRON.EXPL please-3SG.PRES PRON.1SG INF come

it takes two hours to go there
PRON.EXPL take-3SG.PRES two hours INF go there

I will deplore it if you come
PRON.1SG FUT deplore PRON.EXPL CONJ PRON.SG come
we make it impossible to come
PRON.1PL make PRON.EXPL impossible INF come

the boy raised himself
DEF boy raise-PST REFL

The boy pulled himself up
DEF boy pull-PST REFL up

he behaved himself nicely
PRON.3SG behave-PST REFL

The boy raised himself
DEF boy raise-PST REFL

he played himself
PRON.3SG play-PST REFL

The boy pulled himself up
DEF boy pull-PST REFL up

he played himself
PRON.3SG play-PST REFL

The boy pulled himself up
DEF boy pull-PST REFL up
He asked Jack whether he came
he begged me to be allowed to come
he begged me to go
he commits himself to coming
we tell the children about building houses
he seems to me an idiot
He seems to me to be an idiot
he directs the arrow to the north
he draws the line to the left
they take the tour to the north
the boy will take the path toward the river
the boy will take the bus to town
Kathy approves of your choice
Kathy found out the answer
Kathy found out that I came
Kathy cleaned herself up
Kathy found out whether they came.
Kathy found out who came.
Kathy figured out what the answer was.
I saw him run.
I saw him running.
I assume him to be qualified.
I assume him to be qualified.
he felt himself falling.
she considers Jack qualified.
she considers herself qualified.
they perceived him as qualified.
she calls Jane a friend.
she calls herself a friend.
they let the man sing.
they let the song be sung.
PRON.3PL let DEF song be.INF sing-PART

v-trScpr-scObArgConcurr_scAdj|suAg_obAffincrem|CONCURRSTATE
he drank the coffee cold
he drink-PAST DEF coffee warm 'he drank the coffee warm'

v-trScpr-scObArgConcurr_scPP|suAg_obThvehcl|CONCURRSTATE
he drove the car in good condition
PRON.3SG drive-PAST DEF car in good condition

v-trScpr-scObArgConcurr_scPredprtc1|suAg_obThvehcl|CONCURRSTATE
he drove the car like a tractor
PRON.3SG drive-PAST DEF car like DET tractor

v-trScpr-scObArgRes_scAdj|suCsr_scCsd|CAUSATIONwithCAUSINGENTITY
she pounded the soil flat
PRON.3SG pound-PAST DEF soil flat

v-trScpr-scObNrgRes_scPP|suCsr_scCsd|CAUSATIONwithCAUSINGENTITY
she put the house into good condition
PRON.3SG put-PAST DEF house into good condition

v-trScpr-scObNrgRes_scPP|suCsr_scCsd|PLACEMENT
she put the shoes behind the door
PRON.3SG put-PAST DEF shoe-PL behind DEF door

v-trScpr-scObArgCsd_scAdv|suAg_obAff_scCsd|CAUSATIONwithCAUSINGEVENT
he kicked the ball away
PRON.3SG kick-PAST DEF ball away

v-trScpr-scObArgCsd_scAdv|suAg_scCsd|CAUSATIONwithCAUSINGEVENT
they drank the house dry
PRON.3PL drink-PAST DEF house dry

v-trScpr-scObNrgCsd_obRefl_scAdv|suAg_scCsd|CAUSATIONwithCAUSINGEVENT
she ran herself ragged
PRON.3SG run-PAST REFL ragged

v-trScprShft-scObArgCsd_scAdv|suAg_obAff_scCsd|CAUSATIONwithCAUSINGEVENT
he pushed away the branches
PRON.3SG push-PAST away DEF branch-PL

v-trScpr-obDir_obRefl_scObNrgCsd_scAdv|suAg_scCsd|CAUSATIONwithCAUSINGEVENT
he gets himself away
PRON.3SG get-PRES REFL away

v-trScpr-obPoss_scObNrgCsd_scAdv|suAg_scCsd|CAUSATIONwithCAUSINGEVENT
he sang his sorrows away
PRON.3SG sing-PAST PRON.POSS.3SG sorrow-PL away

v-trScprShft-obPoss_scObNrgCsd_scAdv|suAg_scCsd|CAUSATIONwithCAUSINGEVENT
she wiped away her tears
PRON.3SG wipe-PAST PRON.POSS.3SG tear-PL

Ditransitive:
v-ditr|suAg_iobRec_obTh|TRANSFER
I gave him the book
I give-PAST him DEF book

v-ditr|suAg_iobBen_obTh|SUSTAINEDSTATE
he owes her a book
PRON.3SG owe-3SG.PRES DET book

v-trAdv|suThsit_iobAg_advTime|SUSTAINEDACTIVITY
the job took us all day

v-ditr-suAbsger|suThsit_iobBen_obThabst|CAUSATIONwithCAUSINGEVENT
taking walks gives you strength
take-GER walks give-3SG.PRES PRON.2 strength

v-ditr-suGer|suThsit_iobBen_obTh|CAUSATIONwithCAUSINGEVENT
his singing gives Kathy a headache
PRON.POSS.3SG sing-GER give-3SG.PRES K DET headache

v-ditr-suYN|suThsit_iobPrcvr_obTh|ASSESS
whether he comes first will give us our plan of attack
whether PRON.3SG come-3SG.PRES first FUT show PRON.1PL plan of attack

v-ditr-suWH|suThsit_iobPrcvr_obTh|ASSESS
what happens last gives us the plan of attack
WH happen-3SG.PRES last give-3SG.PRES PRON.1PL DET plan of attack

v-ditr-iobPF|suAg_obTh_iobRec|TRANSFER
Jack supplied fruit to the store

v-ditr-iobRefl|suAg_iobBen_obTh|AVAILING
he gave himself time
he give-PAST REFL time

v-ditr-iobRefl|suAg_iobPermissee_obTh|PERMISSION
Kathy allowed herself three cakes
K allow-PAST REFL three cakes

v-ditr-obDECL|suAg_iobIntrlctr_obThsit|COMMUNICATION
Kathy tells me that he often comes
K tell-3SG.PRES PRON.1SG COMP PRON.3SG often come-PRES

v-ditr-obEqIobInf|suAg_iobPermissee_obThsit|COMMITMENT
Kathy allows him to come
K. allow-3SG.PRES PRON.3SG INF come

v-ditr-obEqSuInf|suAg_iobIntrlctr_obThsit|COMMITMENT
Kathy promises him to come
K. promise-3SG.PRES PRON.3SG INF come

v-ditr-obPP|suAg_iobRec_obTh|TRANSFER
Jack supplied us with fruits

v-ditr-obWH|suAg_iobIntrlctr_obThsit|COMMUNICATION
he tells me who comes
PRON.3SG tell-3SG.PRES PRON.1SG WH come-3SG.PRES

v-ditr-obYN|suAg_iobIntrlctr_obThsit|COMMUNICATION
he tells me whether they come
PRON.3SG tell-3SG.PRES PRON.1PL whether they come

v-ditr-iobRefl_obEqIobInf|suAg_iobPermissee_obThsit|COMMITMENT
Kathy allowed herself to come
K. allow-3SG.PRES REFL INF come
Kathy bade him come
K bid-3SG.PAST PRON.3SG come

Kathy let him come
K let PRON.3SG come

who comes first does not show us who comes last
WH come-3SG.PRES first do-NEG show PRON.1PL WH come-3SG.PRES last

whether he comes first will show us whether they have a plan
YN PRON.3SG come-3SG.PRES FUT show PRON.1PL WH PRON.3PL have DET plan

I bet you fifty cents he won’t come
PRON.1SG bet-PRES fifty cents PRON.3SG FUT.NEG come

it took me two hours to get there
PRON.EXPL take-PAST PRON.1SG two hours INF get there

The book cost me ten dollars

Jack sold me the car for fifty dollars
J sell-PAST PRON.1SG DEF car for 50 dollars

Jack paid Jane fifty dollars for the car
J sell-PAST DEF car to J for fifty dollars

Jack paid fifty dollars to Jane for the car

Jane is startled
Jane be.SG.PRES startled

he is kind
he be-PRES kind

getting money for political favours is disgusting
get-GER money PREP political favours be-PRES disgusting

running is healthy
run-GER be-3SG.PRES healthy

that he came at all is surprising
COMP PRON.3SG at all be-3SG.PRES surprising

to err is human
INF err be-3SG.PRES human

v-copAdj-suWH|suThsit|ASSESS
who will comes is uncertain
WH FUT come be-3SG.PRES uncertain

v-copAdj-suYN|suThsit|ASSESS
whether he comes is uncertain
WH PRON.3SG come-3SG.PRES be-3SG.PRES uncertain

v-copAdjobl-oblEqSuGer|suAg_oblActivity|HABITALACTIVITY
Jane is busy (these days) with writing
Jane busy PREP write-GER

v-copN|suTh|PROPTY
he is a fool
PRON.3SG be-3SG.PRES fool

v-copN-suAbsger|suThsit|ASSESS
seeing him was a pleasure
see-GER PRON.3SG be-3SG.PAST DET pleasure

v-copN-suDECL|suThsit|ASSESS
that he came was a shock
COMP PRON.3SG come-PAST be-PAST DET shock

v-copN-suWH|suThsit|ASSESS
who should go is the question
WH AUX go be-3SG.PRES DEF question

v-copN-suYN|suThsit|ASSESS
whether he will come is a question
YN PRON.3SG FUT come be-3SG.PAST DET question

v-copPP|suTh|ASSESS
the performance was beyond belief
DEF performance be-3SG.PAST beyond belief

v-copPP|suTh|EXHIBACTIVITY
The performance is in progress
DEF performance be.3SG.PRES in progress

v-copPP-suDECL|suThsit|ASSESS
that he came was beyond our expectations
COMP PRON.3SG come-PAST be.3SG.PAST PRON.POSS.1PL expectations

v-copPP-suWH|suThsit|ASSESS
who may perform is under consideration
WH AUX perform be.3SG.PRES under consideration

v-copPP-suYN|suThsit|ASSESS
whether he may perform is under discussion
YN PRON.3SG AUX perform be.3SG.PRES under discussion

v-copPredprtcl|suTh|ASSESS
The man is like a god
DEF man be.3SG.PRES like DET god

The result was as desired
DEF result be.3SG.PAST as desired

v-copPredprtcl-suAbsinf|suThsit|ASSESS
to be there was like a dream
INF be there was like a dream
being there was like a dream
what he said was off the mark
it is sad that he leaves
it is uncertain whether he comes
It is a chore to chop wood
it was a disappointment that he failed
it is uncertain who came
It is an art to eating spaghetti
there is an art to eating spaghetti
it was in the third round that he lost
It is out of the question that he comes
it is as well that he knows
It is nice here
It is nice in Trondheim
v-copIdN|suIdfd_scIdfng|IDENTITY
  this is the man
  PRON.DEICT is DEF man
v-copIdAbsinf|suIdfd_scIdfng|IDENTITY
  the task is to finish it
  DEF task be INF finish it
v-copIdDECL|suIdfd_scIdfng|IDENTITY
  the problem is that he likes herring
  DEF problem is COMP he likes herring
v-copIdWH|suIdfd_scIdfng|IDENTITY
  the problem is who gets it
  DEF problem is WH gets it
v-copIdYN|suIdfd_scIdfng|IDENTITY
  the problem is whether he eats meat
  DEF problem is YN he eat-PRES meat
v-copIdN-suDECL|suIdfd_scIdfng|IDENTITY
  that he picks up the letter is the signal
  COMP PRON.3SG picks up DEF letter be.3SG.PRES DEF signal
v-copIdAbsger|suIdfd_scIdfng|IDENTITY
  eating it is the last step
  eat-GER it be.PRES DEF last step
v-copIdAbsinf-suAbsinf|suIdfd_scIdfng|IDENTITY
  to eat hot dogs is to support the global economy
  INF eat hot dogs be.3SG.PRES is INF support DEF global economy
v-copIdAbsger-suAbsger|suIdfd_scIdfng|IDENTITY
  Eating local food is supporting local culture
  Eat-GER local food be.3SG.PAST support-GER local culture

Auxiliary verbs:
axv_intr-av1mod
  he can come
As a 'root' modal, this construction can also be represented as v-intrAuxmodComp-
compEqBareinf-suAg_compThsit, and as an 'epistemic' modal, as v-intrScpr-
scSuNrg_scBareinf (see above)
axv_intr-vPart|PERFECT
  he has come
  3SG have.PRES come PRFPART
axv-intr-vPart|suAgmover|MOTION
  the boy is running
  DEF boy AUX run-PRESPART