

ENGLISH

For General Competitions

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CHANDAN PANDIT**

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*Dedicated to my
beloved son
whose time I stole
to write this one*

PREFACE

To the Tenth Edition

English for General Competitions was my gift to the aspirants of competitive exams who were extremely benefitted by the approach of the book. The demand for the English version was so tremendous that I had to take the translation work on priority basis and now this book is all yours, my gift to the students especially from the North-east, South India and English Medium Schools. The numerous questions given at the end of each chapter have been carefully picked from different question papers of various competitive exams. The solution of every question has detailed explanation for easy understanding. All the latest questions especially of Passive Voice and Narration have been incorporated to help the students know the latest pattern of the questions being asked in different competitive exams. In a nutshell, I would like to say that this book is an attempt to fill the void that aspirants of General Competitions felt when it comes to preparing English for Competitive Exams. Now this book comes with video solution of all the chapters taught by me. I have also included additional concepts, synonyms and antonyms apart from what are in this book.

The best part of the Ninth edition is that now you can get a chance to study all the 34 chapters of this book by me at a very affordable fee. I have included multiple additional concepts, new, vocabularies and roots of many words for better understanding of all the chapters in my video classes.

Our students' constructive feedback and suggestions are most welcome which have always remained and will remain our guiding light. I will be highly obliged if you message/mail me your feedback or suggestion on 8860330003 or on support@kdcampus.org.

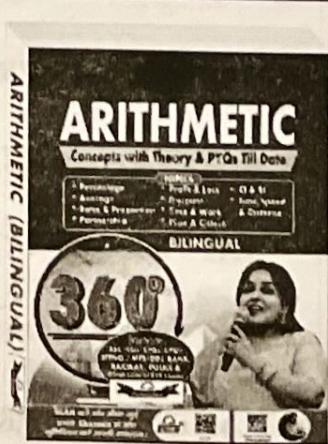
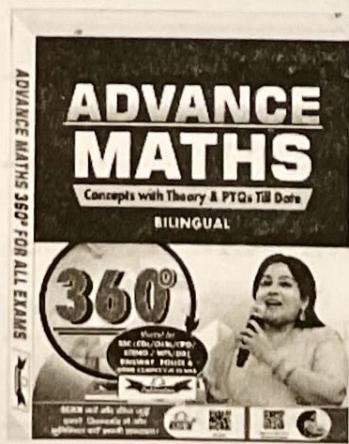
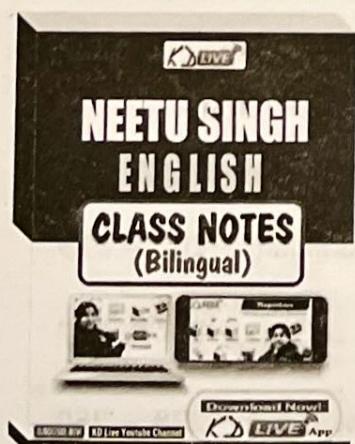
Neetu Singh

Jan, 2026

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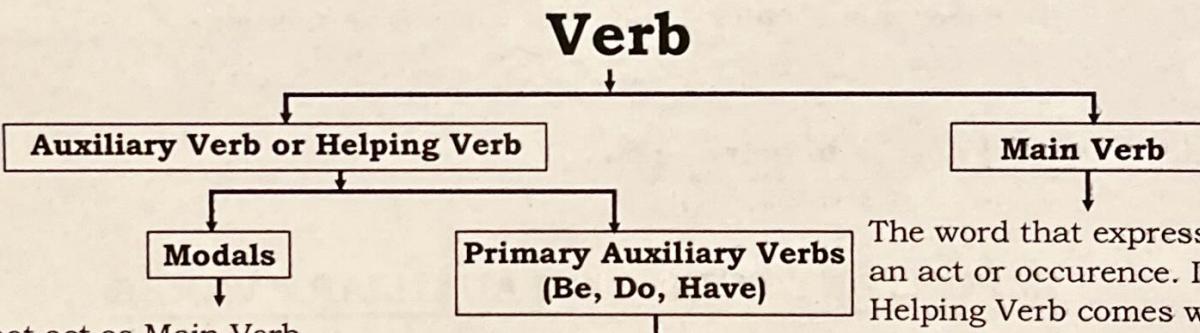
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Abbreviations

S/ Sub	→ Subject	Adj.	→ Adjective
O/Obj	→ Object	Adv.	→ Adverb
V	→ Verb	Prep	→ Preposition
S.V	→ Singular Verb	H.V	→ Helping Verb
P.V	→ Plural Verb	V _{b.f}	→ Base form of Verb
S.A.	→ Singular Adjective	M.V	→ Main Verb
P.A.	→ Plural Adjective	V ₁	→ First Form of Verb
N	→ Noun	V ₂	→ Second Form of Verb
S.N	→ Singular Noun	V ₃	→ Third Form of Verb
P.N	→ Plural Noun	Aux. Verb	→ Auxiliary Verb/ Helping verb
P	→ Pronoun	U.N	→ Uncountable Noun
S.P	→ Singular Pronoun	S.C.N.	→ Singular Countable Noun
P.P	→ Plural Pronoun	P.C.N.	→ Plural Countable Noun

Any word that denotes an action or a state is **Verb**. Hence verb is also called '**doing word**'/'**state word**'.

- Verb can be classified into two categories.



Do not act as Main Verb.

For eg- Can, Could, May etc.

Note: 'Need', 'Dare' and 'Used to' act as Marginal/Partial Auxiliary

Verbs; 'Need' and 'Dare' acts as both Main verb and Modal while 'Used to' acts as both Modal and Adjective

The word that expresses an act or occurrence. If a Helping Verb comes with Main Verb, the Helping Verb will come before the Main Verb.

- **Auxiliary Verbs:** They are used in addition to other verbs. These are also called Helping Verbs.
- **Modal Auxiliary Verbs:** They are also called **Helping Verbs**. **Can, Could, May, Might, Shall, Will, Would, Should, Must** and **Ought to** are called Complete Modals or Modal Auxiliary Verbs.

E.g.: 1. (a) She can run fast.
 Modal M.V.

 (b) You should study English.
 Modal M.V.

2. **Marginal Auxiliary Verbs:** **Used to, Need** and **Dare** are **Marginal Auxiliary Verbs**. These Modals can be used as a **Main Verb (in case of Need & Dare)** or an **Adjective (used to)** in a sentence.

- **Need & Dare** → Modal and Main Verb.
- **Used to** → Modal and Adjective

E.g.: 1. (a) I am used to sleeping late at night. (*• Here 'used to' means 'to become habitual'*)

M.V. Adjective Gerund

(b) I used to sleep late at night. (*• Here 'used to' mean 'Past Routine'*)

Modal

2. (a) I need you.

M.V.

(b) You need not come tomorrow.

H.V (Modal) Direct Infinitive (V_{b,f})

3. (a) She does not dare to come home late.

H.V. M.V. Infinitive (to + V_{b,f})

(b) I dare not enter his room without permission.

H.V (Modal) Direct Infinitive (V_{b,f})

4. You need not to worry now.

Modal Direct Infinitive (V_{b,f})

IMPORTANT POINTS ON AUXILIARY VERBS

Rule 1: **Modal Auxiliary verbs** are **not** used as **Main Verbs**. They are **used as only Helping Verbs**.

E.g.: (a) I can lift this box. (b) He should work hard.

H.V. M.V. H.V. M.V.

Rule 2: **Modal Auxiliary Verbs** are Non-finite Verbs. Their forms do not change with **Subject, Person or Number**.

E.g.: (a) She can help you.

V_{b,f}

(b) You should understand your friends.

V_{b,f}

Rule 3: 'Ought' and 'used' is always followed by Infinitive '**to + V_{b,f}**'.

E.g.: (a) We ought to respect our parents.

Modal V_{b,f}

(a) He used to come late.

Modal V_{b,f}

USE OF MODAL AUXILIARY VERBS

CAN & COULD

Rule 1: **Can** denotes **power, ability** and **capacity**.

Could denotes past **ability, power** or **capacity**.

E.g.: 1. He **can** lift the box.
2. I **could** not come yesterday.

Rule 2: **Can** is also used for **taking / giving permission**.

E.g.: 1. You **can** go now.
2. You **cannot** enter my room.
3. **Can** I help you?

Rule 3: **Can** denotes **theoretical possibility**.

E.g.: 1. Everyone **can** make a mistake.
2. Such a pandemic **can** finish life from the earth.

Rule 4: **Could** is used to show **remote possibility**.

E.g.: There **could** be a bomb under your seat.

Rule 5: **Can** shows **friendly request** while **could** shows **formal request**.

E.g.: 1. **Can** we be friends?
2. **Could** I talk to Mr. Shukla?

Note: Both '**able to**' and '**could/can**' show **capacity**. Hence they are never used together in a sentence.

E.g.: I cannot be able to come tomorrow. (✗)

(This is a superfluous sentence. The word '**superfluous**' means **more than required**. Synonyms- redundant.)

The correct sentence is:-

I **cannot** come tomorrow. (✓)

I will not be **able to** come tomorrow. (✓)

Note: **Could** expresses Past Ability but not Past Performance.

E.g.: I **Could** sing very well (**ability**) when I was young and I **was able to** perform well (**ability + action in the past**) at the concerts.

Note: In **Negative** sentences '**could not**' and '**unable to**' mean the same.

E.g.: The doctor **could not** save the **patient**.

or

The doctor **was unable** to save the **patient**. (Both the sentences have the same meaning.)

Note:- *We **were able to** or **managed to** reach home safely though it was dark.