

Type 5 DO +Infinitive

In this type, the **helping verb** “do” is called an **operator**. We call it **an operator** because it helps in a number of operations performed on the verb phrase (VP). Some of these operations are:

Operation 1: Negative

To form the negative, we put “not” immediately **after** the **operator**.

e.g. He **does not** want it. They **did not** come here.



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Operation 2: Interrogative (question)

The interrogative is formed by placing the **operator** before the subject and leaving the rest of the sentence unchanged.

e.g.

They come here.

Do they **come** here? (**interrogative**)



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Operation 3: Tag question

He did his homework, **didn't** he?

They don't come here, **do** they?



Operators

In addition to “do, does and did”, **operators** also include:

1. **The modal auxiliaries** (can, could, may, might.. etc)

e.g.

Operation 1: He **could** not come.

Operation 2: **Could** he come?

Operation 3. He couldn't come, **could** he?



Operators

2. “have”, “has”, “had” as **helping verbs** (and sometimes as **main verbs** in British English).

The following are examples of “**have**” as a helping verb operator:

Operation 1: They **have** not come yet.

Operation 2: **Have** they come already?

Operation 3: They haven’t come yet, **have** they?



Operators

This is an example of “**have**” as a main verb operator in British English:

Operation 2: **Have** you any money? (British English)

Compare:

Do you have any money? (American English)



Operators

3. “am”, “is”, “are”, “was”, “were” as main verbs and as auxiliary verbs.

The following are examples of “is” as a main verb operator:

Operation 1: He **is** not here.

Operation 2: **Is** he here.

Operation 3: He is here, **isn't** he?



Operators

The following are examples of “is” as a helping verb operator:

Operation 1: He **is** not coming.

Operation 2: **Is** he coming?

Operation 3: He is not coming, **is** he?



Exercise

Decide whether the underlined verb is:

- a. a main verb operator
- b. a helping verb operator
- c. not an operator

1. They do not come here often.
2. I have not seen this movie yet.
3. Do you have a copy of the movie.
4. He is not here.
5. He isn't going, is he?

