

PHILOLOGICA BUCURESTIENSIS
Publications de la Faculté des Langues et des Littératures Étrangères

4

Directorul colecției: Iancu FICHER

LARISA AVRAM

**AUXILIARIES AND
THE STRUCTURE OF LANGUAGE**



Editura Universității din București

- 1999 -

Referenți științifici: Conf. dr. *Florica BĂNCILĂ*
Prof. dr. *Alexandra CORNILESCU*
Dr. *Donka FARKAS*
Dr. *Juan URLAGEREKA*

Editura Universității din București
Șos. Panduri, 90-92, București - 76235; Tel./Fax: 410.23.84

Tehnoredactare computerizată: Constanța TITU

Descrierea CIP a Bibliotecii Naționale

AVRAM, LARISA

Auxiliaries and the structure of language / Larisa Avram

București: Editura Universității din București, 1999

p.264: 23 cm

Bibliogr.

ISBN 973-575-361-8

81

CONTENTS

Acknowledgements	9
Abbreviations	11
INTRODUCTION	13
Chapter 1	
THE AUXILIARY PARADOX	20
1.1 The Paradox	20
1.3 Lexical or functional ?	25
1.4 A solution	28
Chapter 2	
AUXILIARY CONFIGURATIONS IN ROMANIAN:	
AN ANALYSIS OF A AVEA AND A FI	32
2.1 Introduction	32
2.2 The data	35
2.2.1 Preliminary remarks.	35
2.2.2 An/ai/are/avem/aveți/au.	35
2.2.3 Am/ai/a/am/ați/au.	36
2.2.4 Aș/ai/ar/am/ați/au.	39
2.2.5 The case of <i>o</i>	41
2.3 The analysis	46
2.3.1 The hypothesis	46
2.3.2 The <i>perfect compus</i> configuration	49
2.3.3 The <i>condițional-optativ</i> configuration	63
2.3.4 On the deficiency of <i>a avea</i>	67
2.4 To have or to be?	71
2.4.1 The issue	71
2.4.2 A semantic analysis.	75
2.4.3 A syntactic account	80
2.4.4 <i>Fi</i> as a perfect auxiliary	93
2.5 Open questions	96
2.5.1 Auxiliary-Verb Inversion.	96
2.5.2 Auxiliary selection and direction of Merge.	99

Chapter 3	
THE ENGLISH MODALS: A SYNTACTIC ACCOUNT	101
3.1 Introduction.....	101
3.2 Main lines of investigation.....	102
3.2.1 General remarks	102
3.2.2 The modals as lexical verb analysis.....	106
3.2.3 The modals as a distinct class analysis.....	110
3.3 A tentative approach to the English modals.....	115
3.3.1 The hypothesis.....	115
3.3.2 The modals under VP	118
3.3.3 The modals in the functional domain.....	132
3.3.4 The modals under Mood2	142
3.3.5 Tentative answers.....	157
3.4 A brief history of the English modals.....	158
3.4.1 The framework.....	158
3.4.2 A few remarks on premodals.....	162
3.4.3 Middle English changes.....	162

Chapter 4	
REMARKS ON THE SYNTAX AND SEMANTICS	
OF THE ROMANIAN MODALS.	165
4.1 Introduction.....	165
4.2 Main lines of investigation	166
4.2.1 The Romanian modals and predication.....	166
4.2.2 The VP-complex analysis.....	167
4.2.3 The modals as lexical verbs analysis	169
4.3 The analysis.....	171
4.3.1 Preliminary remarks.....	171
4.3.2 Outline	432
4.4 <i>A putea</i>	178
4.4.1 The data	178
4.4.2 <i>A putea</i> and bare infinitives.....	179
4.4.3 <i>A putea</i> and subjunctive clauses.....	204
4.4.4 Permission <i>a putea</i>	212
4.4.5 <i>A putea</i> and complementizer phrases.....	216
4.4.6 Conclusions so far	218
4.5 <i>A trebui</i>	220
4.5.1 The most unstable of them all!	220
4.5.2 The data.....	223
4.5.3 [+agreement]/[-agreement].....	224

4.5.4. <i>A trebui</i> and temporal forms.....	228
4.5.5 <i>A trebui</i> and participle-based small clauses.....	228
4.5.6 <i>A trebui</i> and supine-based small clauses.....	234
4.5.7 <i>A trebui</i> and subjunctive clauses.....	239
4.5.8 <i>A trebui</i> and Complementizer Phrases.....	241
5. Instead of conclusions	244
5.1 Jumping back.....	244
5.2 Questions about the framework.....	244
5.2.1 The never ending splitting	244
5.2.2 [+focus] and [+topic] features?	245
5.2.3 The old theta-roles.....	246
5.3 Auxiliaries and negation.....	246
5.4 The acquisition of the English modals.....	247
References	251