

## Reference No:

## Revision History:

Name	Change Date	Version	Description of Changes
Shanza Nayyer	16 <sup>th</sup> September, 04	0.1	Created
Kiran Khurshid	9 <sup>th</sup> December, 04	0.2	Added negative particle
Zunaira Malik	20 <sup>th</sup> May, 05	0.3	Addition in Release 5.0
Zunaira Malik	10 <sup>th</sup> July, 05	0.4	Removal of VERB_FORM = 'be' constraint to allow verbs with <SUBJ,PREDLINK> subcat to work

**Rule ID:** EGR202

**Rule Syntax:** Following is the constituent description of the rule.

VPpred\_main1 -> v (neg)

VPpred\_main2 -> HelpVP v

VPpred\_main3 -> (neg) v

**Rule Functional Description:** Following are the functional specifications of the rules.

- 1) VPpred\_main1 -> v: ^ = !, !\_MORPH\_FORM =c {PRES,PAST}, !VOICE =c ACTIVE; (neg: ^=!;).
- 2) VPpred\_main2 -> HelpVP: ^ = !, ^TNS\_ASP = !\_MAUX TNS\_ASP, !\_MAUX VOICE =c ACTIVE; v: ^ = !, !VOICE =c ACTIVE, !\_MORPH\_FORM =c ^\_MAUX \_ALLOWED\_FORM;.
- 3) VPpred\_main3 -> (neg: ^=!;) v: ^ = !, !VOICE =c ACTIVE, ^HelpVP \_ALLOWED\_FORM = !\_MORPH\_FORM ;.

## Frequency: -

**Description:** This production gives the detail of the main part of VP (auxiliaries and main verb) in a copular construction.

*c-structure:* main verb phrase in copular construction has specific constraints which are different from normal constructions, hence separate productions are made.

*f-structure:* \_VERB\_FORM (verb form) of verb in VPpred\_main is always 'be'. VPpred\_main contains sequence of auxiliaries followed by main verb having the form of 'be' or verbs with subcat frames containing the PREDLINK option. It is to be noted that PREDLINK analysis is always in the ACTIVE form of sentence. Production 1 and 2 are used for declarative sentences and production 1 and 3 are used for interrogative.

## Examples:

- 1) I am good. (for production 1)
- 2) She is not good. (for production 1)
- 3) I have been being a good girl. (for production 2)
- 4) She has not been being a good girl. (for production 2)
- 5) Are you being a good girl? (for production 3)
- 6) Are you a good girl? (for production 3)

- 7) Are you not being a good girl? (for production 3)
- 8) He feels good (for production 1)

**Rule Status:** Active

**Reference:**

[1] Miriam Butt, Tracy Holloway King, "A Grammar Writer's Cookbook"

**Related Rules:** EGR102

**Related POS:** EPOS106, EPOS120

**Replaces:** EGR103

**Reason:** removal of VERB\_FORM = 'be' constraint to allow <SUBJ,PREDLINK> option for verbs like "feel" and "seems" to run

**Replaced by:** -

**Analysis:** Following is the in-depth analysis of the rule:

*Analysis 1:* Three productions are used to represent a verb phrase for copular constructions. The first two productions given above are used for declarative sentences, while the third is used only for interrogative sentences.

The first production allows only the present or past form of the main verb "be" in a copular construction.

*Example:* i) I am a good girl.  
ii) She was different.

The negation of the above examples is possible by introducing a negative particle "not" after the main verb.

*Example:* i) I am not a good girl.  
ii) She was not different.

The second production allows auxiliaries and modals before the main verb "be".

*Example:* i) She may have been good.

Similarly, the negation of this sentence can also be done by introducing "not" within the helping verb phrase. Note that this production uses the HelpVP rule, which allows the negative particle in itself.

*Example:* i) She may not have been good.

Finally, the third production allows the main verb "be" alone, after the subject of the interrogative sentence.

*Example:* i) Why is she being good?

From the above example, we see that the auxiliary occurring before the subject needs to agree with the auxiliary after the subject. For this reason the \_ALLOWED\_FORM of the HelpVP structure of the interrogative sentence is unified with the \_MORPH\_FORM of the second auxiliary. Furthermore, the verb "be" allowed in interrogatives can be other than present and past morphological forms.

For the negation within the copular construction of interrogatives, negative particle "not" is allowed immediately before the main verb in the third production.

*Example:* i) Why is she not being good?

**Result:** We decided on the above analysis.

**Future Work:** -