

PHILOLOGY

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The use of non-finite forms of the English verb in modern oral speech

The article considers the peculiarities of usage of the Infinitive, the Gerund and the Participle in oral speech. The total sampling method helps to identify the frequency of usage of the non-finite forms of the English verb, their syntactic functions, as well as the forms they have when used in this type of communication. The most frequent non-finite form is the Infinitive (45 %), the Gerund comes second (35 %), the Participle is the least frequent form (20 %: Participle I – 15 %, Participle II – 5 %). All non-finite forms can function by themselves (73 %), and as components of syntactic constructions (27 %).

Key words: oral speech, non-finite forms of the verb, infinitive, gerund, participle I, participle II, frequency of usage, syntactic functions.

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