

APPENDIX 3: CHAUCER

The Miller's and the Reeve's Prologues and Tales

Lines 3109-4324 (1215 lines in Benson 1987a; the following website also used for comparison and some of the glosses: <http://www.librarius.com/cantales.htm>)

Line references are to Benson (1987a)

Word count: approx. 9,857 words (based on <http://www.librarius.com/cantales.htm>)

HAVE-PERFECTS WITH TRANSITIVES

(incl. prepositional objects, implied/unexpressed objects, and the copula *be*)

1. Whan that the Knyght **had** thus his tale **ytoold** [3109]
2. How that a clerk **hath set** the wrightes cappe '...deceived made a fool of the carpenter' [3143, translation from Benson (1987a: 67)]
3. **Hadde lerned** art [3191]
4. This carpenter **hadde wedded** newe a wyf [3221]
5. A clerk **hadde** litherly **biset** his whyle, [i.e. 'wasted his time' from Benson (1987a: 69)]
But if he koude a carpenter bigyle. [3299-3300]
6. as I **have told** biforn [3302]
7. Whan Nicholas **had doon** thus everideel,
And **thakked** ['patted'] hire aboute the lendes ['loins'] weel [3303-3304]
8. And Absolon his gyterne **hath ytake** [3353]
9. As he **had kiked** on ['gazed at'] the newe moone [3445]
10. And whan that ech of hem **had dronke** his part [3498]
11. I **have yfounde** in myn astrologye,
12. As I **have looked** in the moone bright,
That now a ['on'] Monday next, at quarter nyght,
Shal falle a reyn... [3514-3517]
13. **Hastow nat herd** hou saved was Noe [3534]
14. Whan that oure Lord **hadde warned** hym biforn [3535]
15. **Hastou nat herd** [3538]
16. That she **hadde had** a ship herself alone [3543]
17. But whan thou **hast**, for hire and thee and me,
Ygeten us thise knedyng tubbes ['kneading troughs'] thre [3563-3564]

18. 19. And whan thou thus **hast doon** as I **have seyd**,
20. And **hast** oure vitaille faire in hem **yleyd** [3567-3568]

21. But er that ['before'] he **hadde maad** al this array ['preparation'] [3630]

22. ther oure abott **hath** hym **sent** [3666]

23. er ['before'] he **hadde kembd** ['combed'] his heer. [3691]

24. **Have do** 'have done/finish up' [3728, gloss 'finish up' from Benson (1987a: 75)]

25. Fy! allas! what **have I do?** [3739]

26. For fro that tyme that he **hadde kist** ['kissed'] her ers [3755]

27. Som gay gerl ['good-looking girl'], God it woot ['knows'],
Hath broght yow thus upon the viritoot [astir?] [3769-3770]

28. I **have** thee **broght** a ryng [3794]

29. For with the fal he **brosten** ['broken'] **hadde** his arm [3829]

30. He **hadde ybought** hym knedyng-tubbes ['kneading troughs'] thre ['three'] [3836]

31. And **hadde** hem ['them'] **hanged** in the roof above; [3837]

32. And Absolon **hath kist** ['kissed'] hir nether ye ['lower eye'] [3852]

33. Whan folk **hadde laughen** at this nyce cas ['foolish business'] [3855]

34. Whan that oure Hoost **hadde herd** this sermonyng [3899]

35. This dronke Millere **hath ytoold** us heer
How that bigyled ['tricked'] was a carpenter [3913-3914]

36. What for hire kynrede ['kindred, lineage'] and hir nortelrie ['nurture, education']
That she **hadde lerned** in the nonnerie. [3967-3968]

37. He looketh up and doun til he **hath founde**
The clerkes hors [4059-4060]

38. Allas, our wardeyn ['warden, master of the college'] **has** his palfrey **lorn** ['lost']
[4075]

39. And he that bettre **sholde han** ['have'] **knyt** ['tied'] the reyne [4083]

40. Why ne **had** thow **pit** ['put'] the capul ['horse'] in the lathe ['barn', Northern dialect]?
[4088]

41. He half a busshel of hir flour **hath take** [4093]

42. ye **han** ['have'] **lernerd** art [4122]
43. I **have herd** seyð, 'Man sal ['shall, must'] taa ['take'] of twa thynges...' [4129]
44. Wel **hath** this millere **vernysshed** his heed ['head'] [4149, 'made his head shine (from drinking)', translation from Benson (1987: 81)]
45. This millere **hath** so wisely ['surely'] **bibbed** ['imbibed'] ale [4162]
46. Som esement ['compensation, redress'] **has** lawe **yshapen** us; [4179]
47. And we **han** ['have'] **had** an il fit ['hard time'] al this day [4184]
48. He auntred hym ['took a risk'], and **has** his nedes **sped** ['accomplished his purpose'] [4205]
49. But faire and wel she creep ['crept'] in to the clerk,
And lith ful stille, and **wolde han** ['have'] **caught** a sleep. [4226-4227]
50. This joly lyf **han** ['have'] thise two clerkes **lad**
Til that the thridde cok bigan to synge [4232-4233]
51. As I **have** thries in this shorte nyght
Swyved ['copulated with'] the milleres doghter bolt upright ['lying flat on her back'] [4265-4266]
52. She wende the clerk **hadde wered** a volupeer ['nightcap'] [4303]
53. And wende **han** ['have'] **hit** this Aleyn at the fulle ['squarely'] [4305]
54. And **hath ylost** the gryndynge of the whete,
And **payed** for the soper [4314-4315]
55. Thus **have** I **quyt** ['repaid'] the Millere in my tale [4324]
- WITH THE COPULA *BE*
56. if she **hadde been** a mous [3346]
57. Hym **hadde be** levere 'He would have preferred'
[3541, translation from Benson (1987a: 73)]
58. This Nicholas anon leet fle ['let fly'] a fart,
As greet as it **had been** a thonder-dent ['thunderstroke'] [3806-3807]
59. That it **had been** to late for to crie [4196]
60. Whil thou **hast**, as a coward, **been** agast ['frightened'] [4267]

HAVE-PERFECTS WITH INTRANSITIVES

1. A litel after cokkes **hadde ycrowe** [3358]
2. My mouth **hath icched** [‘itched’] al this longe day [3682]
3. Whan that the firste cok **hathe crowe** [3687]
4. allas, I ne **hadde ybleynt** [‘turned away’] [3753]
5. And ever sithe **hath** so the tappe **yronne**,
Til that almoost al empty is the tonne [‘barrel, cask’] [3893-3894]
6. Thise sely [‘innocent, hapless, foolish’] clerkes **han** [‘have’] ful faste **yronne**
Toward the fen, bothe Aleyn and eek [‘also’] John. [4090-4091]
7. I **hadde** almoost **mysgoon** [‘gone astray’];
8. I **hadde** almoost **goon** to the clerkes bed.
9. Ey, benedicite! thanne **hadde** I foule **ysped**! [4218-4220]
10. Aleyn wax wery in the dawenyng,
For he **had swonken** [‘worked’] al the longe nyght, [4234-4235]
11. al wrang [‘wrong’, Northern dialect] I **have mysгон** [4252]
12. I woot [‘know’] wel by the cradel I **have mysго** [4255]
13. He **wende have cроpen** [‘crept’] by his felawe John, [4259]
14. For she was falle aslepe a lite wight [‘a short time’]
With John the clerk, that **waked hadde** al nyght [4283-4284]

MODAL HAVE

1. I **have** therwith **to done** [3777]

BE-PERFECTS WITH MUTATIVE (?) INTRANSITIVES

1. But sith that he **was fallen** in the snare [3231]
2. This carpenter **was goon** til Osenay [3400]
3. This man **is falle**, with his astromye [‘astronomy’],
In some woodnesse [‘madness’] or in som agonye [3451-3452]
4. Til he **was** in a marle-pit [‘clay pit’] **yfalle** [3460]
5. Whan that the grete shour **is goon** away [3574]
6. Be wel avysed on that ilke nyght

That we **ben entred** into shippes bord [3584-3585]

7. I trowe ['suppose'] that he **be went**
For tymber [3665-3666]
8. This Nicholas **was risen** for to pisse [3798]
9. for thogh oure myght **be goon** [3879]
10. As many a yeer as it **is passed** henne ['hence, away']
Syn ['since'] that my tappe of lif ['life'] bigan to renne [3889-3890]
11. This wenche ['girl'] thikke and wel **ygrown was** [3973]
12. And forthy **is I come**, and eek ['also'] Alayn [4031]
13. What, whilk ['which', Northern dialect] way **is he geen** ['gone', Northern dialect]?
[4078]
14. And whan the millere saugh ['saw'] that they **were gon**
He half a busschel of hir flour hath take [4092-4093]
15. The day **is come** [4237]
16. My doghter, that **is come** of swich ['such'] lynage [4272]
17. For she **was falle** aslepe a lite wight ['a short time']
With John the clerk, that waked hadde al nyght [4283-4284]
18. The feend ['demon, devil'] **is** on me **falle** [4288]
19. The sely ['innocent, foolish'] tonge may wel rynge and chymbe ['chime']
Of wrecchednesse ['wretchedness'] that **passed is** ful yoore ['long ago']. [3896-3897]

BE-PERFECTS WITH TRANSITIVES

1. Fro day to day this joly Absolon
So woweth hire that hym **is wo** ['woe'] **bigon** [3371-3372]

PASSIVES

1. Ful often **blessed was** his myrie throte. [3218]
2. So **was** it **wasshen** whan she leet ['left'] hir werk. [3311]
3. Ful faire and thikke **been** the poyntes **set** [3322]
4. For som folk **wol ben wonnen** for richesse [3381]
5. He **shal be rated** of ['scolded for'] his studiyng [3463]

6. **Shal** al the world **be lost** eftsoones now [‘right now’]? [3489]
7. This world,” he seyde, “in lasse than an hour
 Shal al **be dreynt** [‘drowned’] [3519-3520]
8. Hastow nat herd hou **saved was** Noe [3534]
9. That al the world with water **sholde be lorn** [‘lost’] [3536]
10. This ordinance **is seyde** [3592]
11. So depe **may** impressioun **be take**. [3613]
12. But me were levere than al this toun,” quod he,
 “Of this despit [‘insult’] **awroken** [‘avenged’] for to **be**. [3751-3752]
13. And weep as dooth a child that **is ybete**. [3759]
14. That with the strook he **was** almoost **yblent** [‘blinded’] [3808]
15. For whan he spak, he **was** anon [‘at once, immediately’] **bore down**
 With [‘by’] hende [‘courteous, pleasant’] Nicholas and Alisoun [3831-3832]
16. With othes grete he **was** so **sworn** adoun [‘overcome by oaths’]
17. That he **was holde** wood [‘crazy, mad, insane’] in al the toun [‘town’]; [3845-3846]
18. Thus **swyved** [‘copulated with’] **was** this carpenteris wyf [3850]
19. And Nicholas **is scalded** in the towte [‘rump’] [3953]
20. whan I **was bore** [‘born’] [3891] (cf. Gräf 1888: 18–19)
21. This dronke Millere hath ytoold us heer
 How that **bigyled** [‘tricked’] **was** a carpenteer [3913-3914]
22. She **was yfostred** [‘brought up, raised’] in a nonnerye [3946]
23. But if he **wolde be slayn** of [‘by’] Symkyn [3959]
24. For hooly chirches good **moot** [‘must’] **been despended**
25. On hooly chirches blood, that **is descended**. [3983-3984]
26. Ther **was** hir whete and eek [‘also’] hir malt **ygrounde** [3991]
27. Of o toun [‘town’] **were** they **born** [4014] (cf. Gräf 1888: 18–19)
28. It **shal be doon** [4034]
29. Al this **nys doon** but for a wyle [‘trick’] [4047]

30. Til that hir corn **was** faire and weel ['well'] **ygrounde** [4069]
31. And whan the mele ['ground meal'] **is sakked** ['put in a sack'] and **ybounde** [4070]
32. Oure hors **is lorn** ['lost'], Alayn [4073]
33. the day that I **was born** [4109] (cf. Gräf 1888: 18–19)
34. Oure corn **is stoln** [4111]
35. and this **is** faire **answerd** [4128]
36. The cradel at hir beddes feet **is set** [4156]
37. That gif ['if'] a man in a point ['one point'] **be agreved** ['injured'],
38. That in another he **sal be releved** ['shall be compensated']. [4181-4182]
39. Oure corn **is stoln** [4183]
40. And when this jape ['trick, joke'] **is tald** another day [4207]
41. I **sal been halde** a daf ['considered a fool'] [4208, translation from Benson (1987a: 82)]
42. Thou shalt a cake ['loaf of bread'] of half a busshel fynde
That **was ymaked** of thyn owene mele ['ground meal'] [4244-4245]
43. Thus **is** the proude millere wel **ybete** [4313]
44. His wyf **is swyved**, and his doghter als. [4317]
45. And therfore this proverbe **is seyde** ful ['very'] sooth ['truth'] [4319]
46. A gylour ['deceiver'] **shal hymself bigyled be**. [4321]
47. Now **are** we **dryve** til hethyng ['to contempt'] and til scorn. [4110]

AMBIGUITY BETWEEN PASSIVE AND STATIVE

1. **unbokeled is** the male 'the pouch is opened; i.e., the game is well begun' [3115, translation from Benson (1987a: 66)]
2. And if thou telle it man, thou **art forlore** ['forlorn/lost']; [3505]
3. **Be** wel **avyse**d ['well warned'] on that ilke nyght
That we ben entred into shippes bord [3584-3585]
4. That trewe love **was** evere so yvel **biset** 'in such miserable circumstances' [3715, translation from Benson (1987a: 75)]

5. His hoote love **was coold** and al **yqueynt** ['quenched'] [3754]
6. For he **was heeled** of his maladie [3757]
7. This tale **is doon** [3854]
8. A litel ire ['anger'] **is** in his herte **ylaft** [3862] [contra Gräf (1888: 79), who treats it as perfect]
9. Gras tyme **is doon** 'Grass time is done' [3868, i.e. 'I have left the pasture', translation from Benson (1987a: 77)]
10. Myn herte **is** also ['as'] **mowled** ['molded'] as myne heris [3870]
11. Til it **be roten** ['rotten'] in mullok ['mullock, rubbish, refuse'] or in stree ['straw']. [3873]
12. Til we **be roten** kan we nat **be rype** [3875]
13. Yet in oure asshen olde **is** fyr **yreke** ['covered']. [3882, 'Still in our old ashes, fire is raked over', translation from Benson (1987a: 77)]
14. His name **was hoote** ['called'] deynous ['arrogant, haughty'] Symkyn [3941]
15. For Symkyn wolde no wyf ['wife'], as he sayde,
But ['unless'] she **were** wel **ynorissed** ['bred, raised, educated'] and a mayde
['virgin'] [3947-3948]
16. So **was** hir joly whistle wel **ywet** [4155]
17. whan that **dronken** al **was** [4158]
18. For by that lord that **called is** Seint Jame [St. James] [4264]
19. Whil thou hast, as a coward, **been agast** ['frightened'] [4267]
20. Thou art a fool, thy wit **is overcome!** [3135]

AMBIGUITY BETWEEN *BE*-PERFECT AND PASSIVE OR STATIVE

1. For trewely the game **is** wel **bigonne**. [3117]
2. but al his fantasye
Was turned for to lerne astrologye [3191-3192]
3. Myn herte ['heart'] **is broken**; help! [4289]
4. Heere **is ended** the Reves Tale.

5. And thus they **been accorded** and **ysworn**
To wayte a tyme [3301-3302]
6. And hende Nicholas and Alison
Acorded been to this conclusioun [3401-3402]

MISSING AUXILIARY

1. Hym thynketh verrailly ['truly'] that he may see
Noes flood **come** walwynghe ['surging'] as the see
To drenchen ['drown'] Alisoun, his hony deere. [3615-3617] [problematic]
2. A wyf he hadde, **ycomen** of noble kyn [3942]