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**APPENDIX J**

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**A GRAMMAR**

**Present-Day English**

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[p.262] A GRAMMAR OF PRESENT-DAY ENGLISH

b) The irregular forms of the verb *be* (see pp. 249 ff.).

c) The form *has* for the third person singular of *have*.

d) The old forms, surviving in some poetry and solemn prose, with *-est*, *-eth*, and *-th* in the indicative second and third person singular: Thou *sayest*, he *doeth*, she *maketh*.

The progressive form (see pp. 301 f.) of the present tense is made by the use of the present tense forms of *be* plus the present participle of the given verb.

I am coming.  
He is coming.

The emphatic form (see p. 302) of the present tense is made by the use of the present tense forms of *do* plus the simple infinitive of the given verb.

But I do enjoy talking with you.  
Do you see Bob very often?

## 2. Usages

a) Present time. The present tense in general represents present time. In the simple form of the verb – “The man *works*” – the time may actually be very indefinite. For instance, the sentence “The man works when he can find work” may imply that the man is not working at the time the sentence is formed. In other words, the present tense may represent merely a customary or habitual action. The progressive form – “The man *is working*” – generally represents an action as actually going on at the time the sentence is formed. (But see below.)

b) Future time. The present tense is often used, generally with an adverbial expression, to suggest future action – “My lease expires tomorrow.” Other present tense forms – the present progressive, *be* plus *about* plus an infinitive, *be* plus *going* plus an infinitive – are also common methods of expressing the future. (See p. 277.)

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I am leaving on the seven-o'clock plane tonight.  
We are to be invited, I understand.  
I am about to show you a clever trick.  
They are going to regret their action.