

The present paper is devoted to the perfect construction of Tocharian encoded periphrastically by means of an auxiliary (originally 'to be') typically dropped in the present indicative and the resultative/perfect participle of the lexical verb. The participle is contextually oriented and can surface as either A- or P-oriented; it is not related to voice. Functionally, this construction encodes perfect with properties of a resultative. Thus, while resultative meaning is found in some cases, mostly it is used with a broader meaning of perfect, denoting current relevance at reference time. Occasionally it is used as experiential perfect. The following formal criteria for its perfect meaning have been discovered: compatibility with the time adverbial 'now', strong tendency to occur in contexts with no past time reference, the tendency to employ the essive strategy with the verb 'to go' as opposed to the lative strategy of this verb elsewhere, no lexical input restrictions. The respective pluperfect forms are coded by means of the (a) imperfect or (b) preterit forms of the auxiliary. Tentatively, the difference between the two amounts to the difference between the imperfective and perfective viewpoint. Contexts that do not require commitments to a temporal boundary for the result or after-effects are found with (a) type pluperfects. In turn, (b) type pluperfects are found in the contexts that suggest a temporal delimitation for the result or after-effects at the reference time.