LINB06 PSet4

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Fall 2021, University of Toronto Scarborough

Name(s) + Number(s): _____

You may work in groups of two (self-sign up on Quercus). Submit your answers as a PDF on Quercus.

You're welcome to use this as a template and write in the empty, and it's also ok to type your answers in a new blank document. If you need a judgement about whether it's possible to say something in English or not, you're encouraged to message the professor to get his intuition.

Theta grids (16 points)

For the bolded predicate in each of the following sentence, draw a theta grid for that predicate. Your theta grid should show the arguments of that predicate, their phrasal category (e.g., DP, AP, CP, and so on), and the thematic role they get. You can suppose CPs get a Proposition role. Use a separate page if necessary

Example: Cecil George Paine **discovered** that penicillin treats eye infections.

Agent

DP	CP
Cecil George Paine	that penicillin treats eye infections

Proposition *discover*:

(1) The children are **fond** of books about snakes. fond

DP	CP
The children	Books about snakes

(2) The magician will **bet** you ten dollars that you can't lift the figurine. bet

DP	CP
The magician	Lift the figurine

(3) The professor secretly **ate** ice cream in the library. ate

DP	CP
The professor	Ice cream in the library.

(4) It **sucks** that it's raining today.

DP	CP
Today	Raining

Suffixes and thematic roles (5 points)

Consider the following data from Warlpiri:

(5) Lungkarda ka ngulya-ngka nguna-mi. bluetongue AUX burrow-A lie-NON.PAST

"The bluetongue skink is lying in the burrow."

(6) Nantuwu ka karru-kurra parnka-mi. horse AUX creek-B run-NON.PAST

"The horse is running to the creek."

(7) Karli ka pirli-ngirli wanti-mi. boomerang AUX stone-C fall-NON.PAST

“The boomerang is falling from the stone.”

(8) Kurdu-ngku ka-jana pirli yurutu-wana yirra-rni.

Child-D AUX stone road-E put.NON.PAST

“The child is putting stones along the road.”

What is the meaning of each of the suffixes glossed with -A, -B, -C, -D, and -E (note that (8) has two of these suffixes)? State which thematic relation or relations the suffix is related to.

- A (-*ngka*): This is locative thematic role that explains relationship between where an object or B (-*kurra*): thematic goal role which indicates which aim the horse has during its movement.
- C (-*ngirli*): instrumental thematic role indicating what the cause of the action, the stone is instrumental in the sentence.
- D (-*ngku*): This is locative thematic role that explains relationship between where an object or event is located.
- E (-*wana*): instrumental thematic role indicating what the cause of the action, the stone is instrumental in the sentence

Haitian Creole verb placement (3 points)

Consider the following sentences from Haitian Creole. Is Haitian Creole a verb-raising language or not (e.g., does V move to T)? Briefly explain your answer.

9. Bouki deja konnen Boukinet ̀.

Bouki already knows Boukinet ̀ “Bouki already knows Boukinet.”̀

There is no reason to believe there is any VT movement based on this data. In the first case, we see an Adverb déjà, while in the second, we see a Neg pa. Neither the adverb nor the negative term are acceptable.is the word that comes between the verb konnen and its complement

10. Bouki pa konnen Boukinet̀. Bouki NEG knows Boukinet̀

“Bouki doesn’t know Boukinet̀.”

There is no reason to believe there is any VT movement based on this data. In the first case, we see an Adverb déjà, while in the second, we see a Neg pa. Neither the adverb nor the negative term are acceptable.is the word that comes between the verb konnen and its complement a.

Explaining ungrammaticality (8 points)

Briefly explain why each of the following sentences is ungrammatical. Use appropriate technical terms and concepts from the lecture and the book in your answer.

11. *It seems Bowser to throw a red shell. The sentence structure is not clear thus indicates ambiguity.

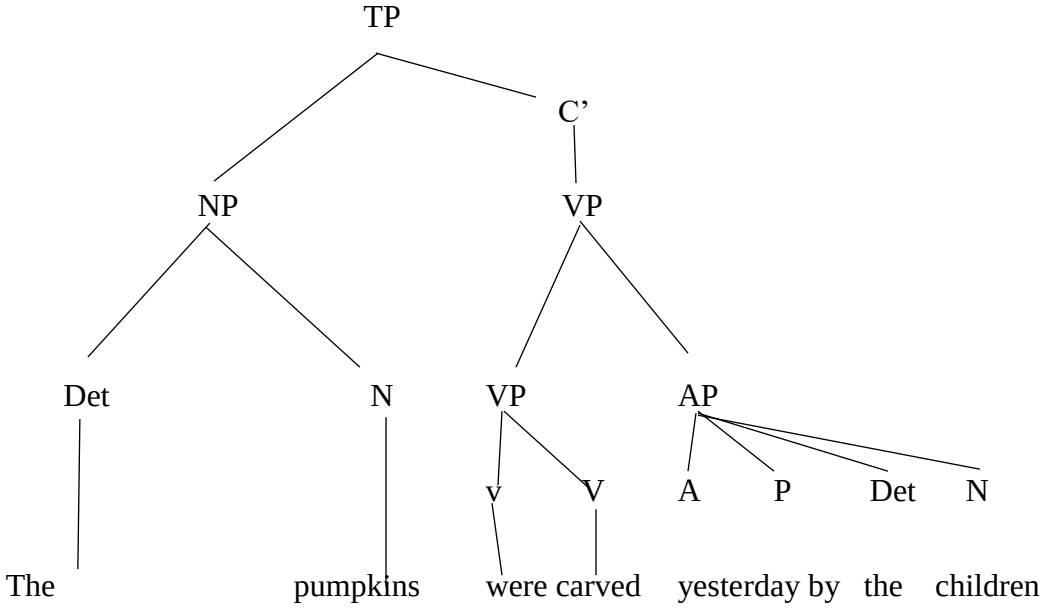
12. *Bill was bitten the dog. The preposition used is incorrect that identifies the cause of the action.

13. *was windy today. The modifier used to explain the event is incorrect.

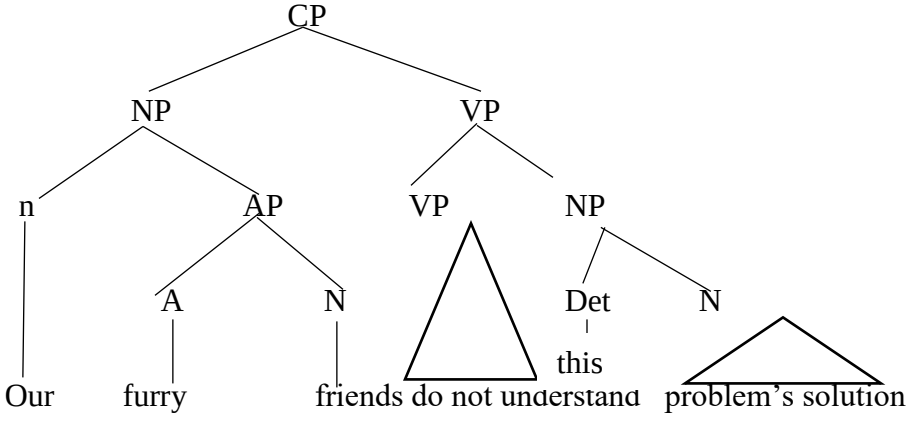
14. *The cat fell a painting. Ambiguity in preposition used and incorrect use of verbs.

Event is located.

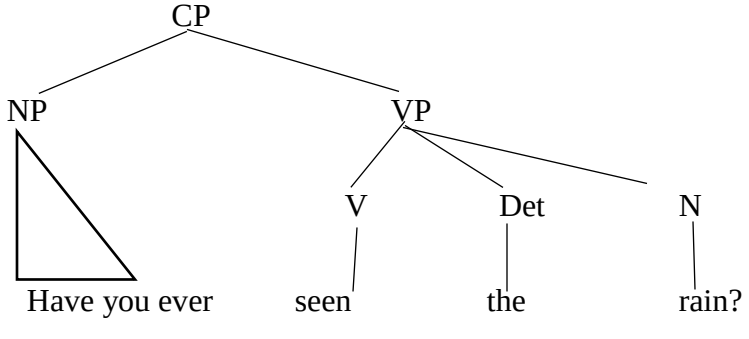
(15) The pumpkins were carved yesterday by the children.



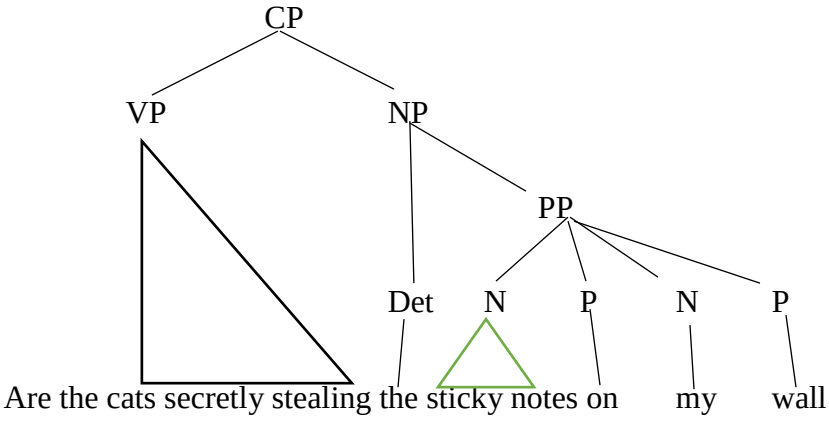
(16) Our furry friends do not understand this problem’s solution.



(17) Have you ever seen the rain?



(18) Are my cats secretly stealing the sticky notes on my wall?



(19) The students have both read the chapter.

