

Final Exam Exercise

*LING201 - Introduction to Linguistics (December 2011)
Eastern Michigan University*

(C) 2011 by Damir Cavar

Phonetics

Transcribe the following words phonemically using IPA:

- a. bang [bæŋ]
- b. crush [kɹʌʃ]
- c. lathe [leɪð]
- d. button [bʌtʌn]
- e. lose [luːz]
- f. broth [brʌθ], [brɔːθ]
- g. think [θɪŋk]
- h. edge [ɛdʒ]
- i. bad [bæd]
- j. tint [tɪnt]

Describe the following IPA symbols and give word examples:

- a. [t] consonant, obstruent, plosive (stop), alveolar, voiceless
Ex. Take, time
- b. [i] vowel, sonorant, high, front, tense, unround
Ex. Peel, mean

- c. [ɑ] vowel, sonorant, low, back, lax, unround
Ex. Hot, pot
- d. [ʃ] consonant, obstruent, fricative, alveopalatal, voiceless
Ex. Shy, nation
- e. [v] consonant, obstruent, fricative, labiodental, voiced
Ex. invasion
- f. [ŋ] consonant, sonorant, nasal (nasal stop), velar, voiced
Ex. ring
- g. [tʃ] consonant, obstruent, affricate, alveopalatal, voiceless
Ex. check, chose
- h. [dʒ] consonant, obstruent, affricate, alveopalatal, voiced
Ex. Imagine, June
- i. [ə] vowel, sonorant, mid, central, lax (reduced), unrounded
Canada
- j. [ʊ] vowel, sonorant, high, front, lax, unrounded
Ex. Put, pull

Morphology

1. "-ish" in the word "punishment" is: a part of a root
 - a. an infix
 - b. a base
 - c. a part of a root
2. "-ed" in the word "called" in the sentence "John called Mary." is: an inflectional suffix
 - a. a prefix
 - b. an inflectional suffix
 - c. a derivational affix

3. What process is involved in formation of a word "camcorder"?: blending
 - a. blending
 - b. conversion
 - c. clipping
 Explain your answer!

4. What process is involved in formation of a word "laser"?: acronym
 - a. abbreviation
 - b. clipping
 - c. acronym
 Explain your answer!

5. English verbs are inflected for: __person, number (e.g. 3 person singular -s), tense (e.g. -ed)_____

(e.g. gender, case, tense, number, aspect, person, negation, voice)

6. English prepositions are inflected for: __none of that__

(e.g. gender, case, tense, number, aspect, person, negation, voice)

Phonology

Define the following five distinctive features. For each of these features, give two examples of segments that bear the "+" value:

- a. coronal
sounds that are produced with the corona, the front part of the tongue, e.g. t, s, ʃ

- b. nasal
sounds that are produced with the air-flow leaving through the nasal cavity, e.g. n, m, ŋ

- c. high
sounds that are produced with the tongue raised from the neutral position, e.g. ɪ, i, u, k, ʊ

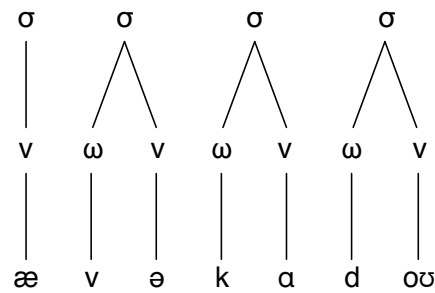
- d. labial
sounds that are produced with lips, e.g. p, b, v, f, w

Syllable structure

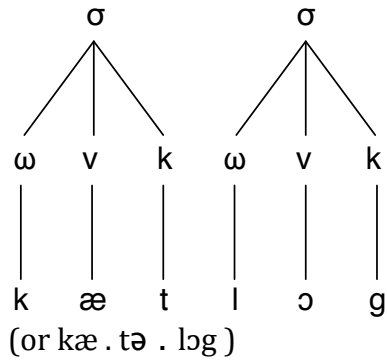
- a. What do we mean by the “coda” of a syllable?
What follows the nucleus of the syllable (and is part of the rhyme), within the same syllable.
- b. Does every syllable have a “coda”? Why or why not?
No, for example the word “no” has no coda.

What is the syllable structure (including the phonetic transcription) of the following words? (ω = Onset, v = Nucleus, k = Coda)

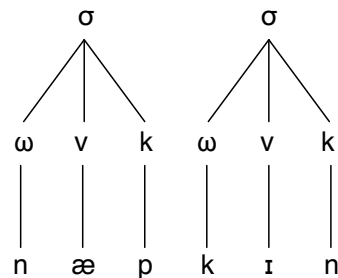
- a. avocado



- b. catalogue



- c. napkin

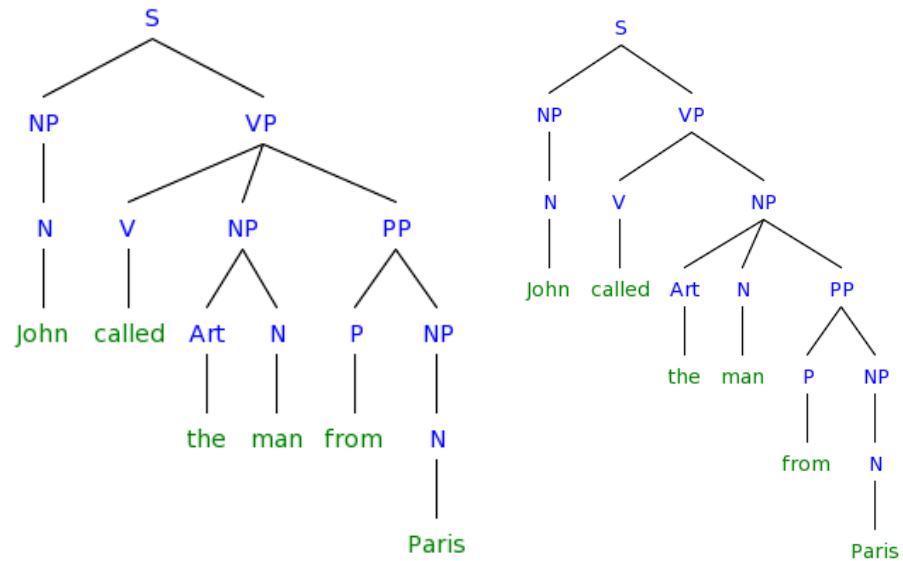


Syntax

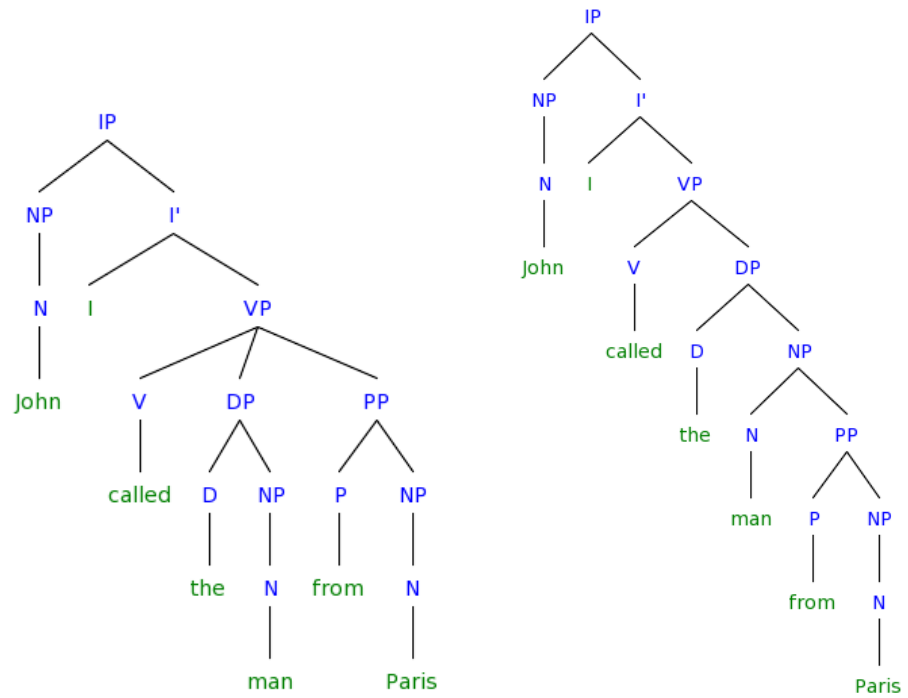
Draw the syntactic tree(s) for the following sentences:

- a. John called the man from Paris.

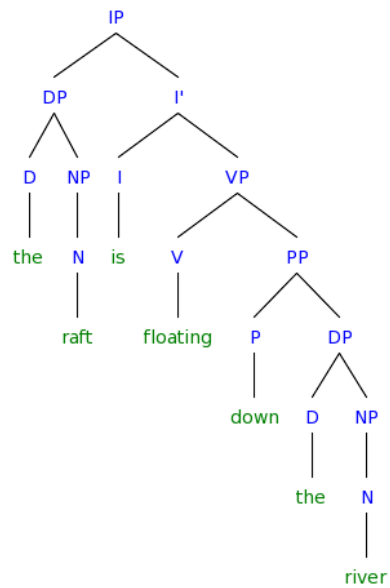
This sentence is ambiguous, i.e. there are at least two possible trees:



or with the CP-IP-DP notation:



b. The raft is floating down the river.



Explain the difference between lexical and structural ambiguity using two example sentences and their structure.

Lexical ambiguity is not necessarily related to syntactic structure, but rather the meaning of the word. The word “bank” for example can refer to a financial institution or the river bank. A structural ambiguity is given in the attachment ambiguity shown in the above example “John called the man from Paris”, where the PP is either a sub-constituent of the predicate (VP), or the direct object (NP or DP).