

LING 201: Introduction to Linguistics

EMU
Fall 2011
D. Cavar

Agenda

- Assignments for today
- Exercises
- Verb valency and argument structure

Assignments

- Mary said that Peter works at EMU.
- John called Mary.
- Some car parked at the house.
- John saw the man with the binoculars.
- John often reads the newspaper in the train.

Syntax

- **Insights:**
 - Sentences are structured
 - Words and lists of words
 - have some default and preferred order
 - there are restrictions on reordering them in the sentence

Syntax

- How do we describe the:
 - Default structure, and
 - Reordering restrictions?
- Answer:
 1. Analysis of the structural properties.
 2. Analysis of dependencies in the sentence.

Structure

- **Structure analysis:**
 - Discovery of syntactic constituents
 - Basic description of phrases and constituent types
 - Deep analysis: lexically driven (function words, substantives, feature structures)

Structure

- **Basic constituents**
 - Phrase structure tests, e.g.:
 - Pronominalisation
 - Replacement
 - Question
 - Dislocation/Movement, etc.

Example

- **Sample sentences:**

1. *The small mouse likes to eat the smelly cheese.*

2. *All man love one woman.*

3. *The complex houses married and single students and their families.*

- What are the syntactic constituents in these sentences, and how do you motivate this?

Structure

- What type of constituents are those constituents you found?
- Label them on the basis of some criteria that you have to define and justify!
- Classify the criteria, i.e. group them on the basis of linguistic information they are based on.

Structure

- What are the differences between the sentences?
- How would you describe the difference?
 - informally
 - formally

Structure

- What is the core difference between the three previous sentences and the following examples:
 1. *Call the police!*
 2. *Did you call the police?*
 3. *When did you call the police?*

Structure

- What is the difference between all the previous sentences and the following examples:
 1. *John was called in the late evening.*
 2. *The problem was identified immediately.*

Structure

- What can we conclude from the observations?
- Every difference is based on some property, those properties are classification criteria.
- What properties did we observe?

Structure

- What can we conclude from the following contrast?

John said that Peter called him yesterday.

* *John said Peter.*

* *John said if Peter called him yesterday.*

Structure

- What can we conclude from the following contrast?

I wonder if poodles like noodles.

* *I wonder poodles.*

* *I wonder that poodles like noodles.*

Structure

- What can we conclude from the following contrast?

The customers like to buy the chair.

* *The customers like.*

* *The customers like to buy the our chair.*

* *The customers like to buy chair.*

Structure

- What can we conclude from the following contrast?

John is calling his friend.

* *John has calling his friend.*

* *John is bought a book.*

John has bought a book.

Structure

- Describe the structural representations for:
 1. *Fat people eat accumulates.*
 2. *The player kicked the ball kicked the ball.*
 3. *Put the box on the table in the kitchen.*
 4. *The cotton clothing is usually made of grows in Mississippi.*
 5. *Have the students who failed the exam take the supplementary.*

Headlines

1. EYE DROPS OFF SHELF
2. PROSTITUTES APPEAL TO POPE
3. KIDS MAKE NUTRITIOUS SNACKS
4. STOLEN PAINTING FOUND BY TREE
5. MILK DRINKERS ARE TURNING TO POWDER
6. JUVENILE COURT TO TRY SHOOTING DEFENDANT
7. 2 SISTERS REUNITED AFTER 18 YEARS AT CHECKOUT COUNTER

Assignment

- Read Chapter 6: Up to section 6.4
- What are the structures of:
 - on the huge tree
 - in the cold water
 - the small house
 - the house with the red roof

Assignment

- Generate at least 4 sentences and their structures using the grammar:

$S \rightarrow NPVP$

$NP \rightarrow ART ADJ N$

$NP \rightarrow N$

$VP \rightarrow V NP$

$N \rightarrow \text{John, Mary, Peter, Susan, book, journal}$

$V \rightarrow \text{called, saw, loves, read, writes, wrote, admires}$

$ART \rightarrow \text{the, a}$

$ADJ \rightarrow \text{red, big, nice, interesting, cool, thick}$