

Linguistic ambiguity has upsides and downsides. One upside is that it ambiguous languages can be more concise, since strings can be reused to mean multiple things.

One downside is that we can never be fully certain what people are telling us.

Example: "I climbed the tree with the red berries."

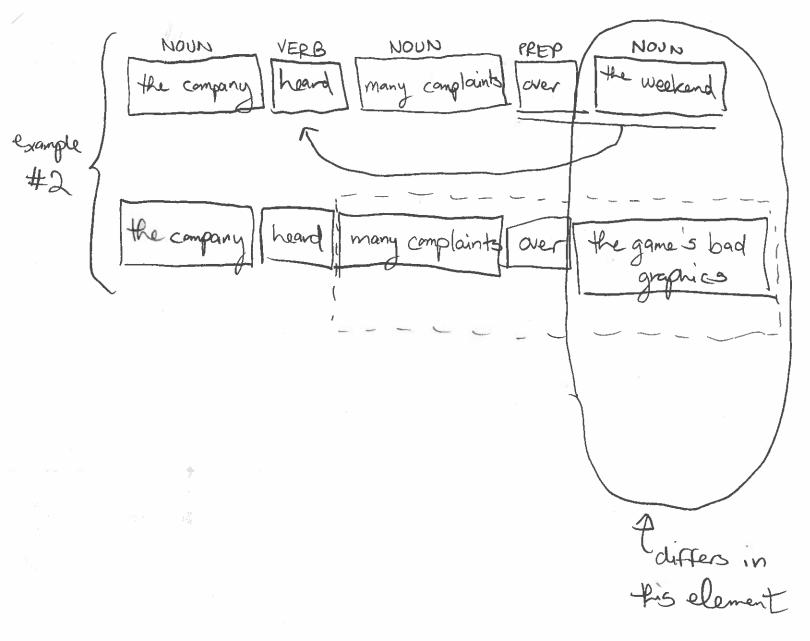




I climbed the tree with the red climbed the tree with the red bernies

Typically we use probability and world knowledge to resolve ambiguities, by observing (e.g.) that berries are usually not sentient.

Observe however that small adjustments to the sentence
Observe however that small adjustments to the sentence can change our preferred analysis:
I climbed the tree with the red berries
climbed the tree with my dad
Comp. 11. 1
Come up with ten pairs of sentences of the form.
NOUN VERB NOUN PREP NOUN
such that (a) the pairs differ only in one element (of the firm
such that (a) the pairs differ only in one element (of the fine (b) the preserved analyses are different.
tere are two more examples:
example NOUN PREP NOUN  She Saw the person with the telescape
#13
She likes the peop with the telescope
Ediffers in this element



Now make 10 pairs of your own! Do not use any of the verbs/nouns from the given examples. If you callaborate, each person must come up with 10 unique pairs of their own.