

## EXERCISE 1.3

Identify the items below as a phrase (P), a dependent clause (DC), or an independent clause (IC).

1. P the abandoned house at the end of our street
2. IC this cup of coffee is very hot
3. DC because she called for help
4. P in time for lunch
5. DC wherever we turned

see answer key, p. 419

### ESSENTIAL CONCEPT 3: A LINGUISTIC STRUCTURE (WORD, PHRASE, OR CLAUSE) MUST BE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO ITS FUNCTION RATHER THAN ITS FORM

We will examine this concept in more detail in the following chapters, but for now, consider how the word *leaves* is used in the following sentences:

The gardener spent hours raking the leaves. ("leaves" = noun)

She leaves work early every day. ("leaves" = verb)

Every word, phrase, or clause is classified by function, not form.

We cannot determine the function of "leaves," then, by looking at the word itself. We must instead consider the word in context to determine if it is functioning as a noun or as a verb.

## EXERCISE 1.4

Label the underlined words as a noun (N) or verb (V).

1. \_\_\_ They will box the fruit in crates.
2. \_\_\_ Do the brothers wrestle or box?
3. \_\_\_ We found a box on our porch.
4. \_\_\_ Staple these papers together.
5. \_\_\_ Rice is a staple in many Asian diets.
6. \_\_\_ She stepped on a staple while cleaning her office.
7. \_\_\_ Many people dream of writing a book.
8. \_\_\_ You should book your dinner reservation now.

see answer key, p. 420



We learned about appositives in Chapter 7 when we observed that a relative clause can often be reduced to an appositive. You will recall that an appositive is a noun or noun structure that stands in apposition to (next to) the noun it renames or identifies. It usually follows the noun it renames, usually is surrounded by commas, and can be omitted without changing the meaning of the sentence. Notice that a **noun clause is set off by commas only when it is used as an appositive.**

### EXERCISE 8.1 \*

Underline the noun clauses in the sentences below and identify their function as subject (S), predicate noun (PN), object of preposition (OP), direct object (DO), indirect object (IO), objective complement (OC), or appositive (APP).

1. What is unusual about the Navajo culture is its respect for all living things. <sup>S</sup>
2. Navajos see how all inhabitants of the natural world are related. <sup>DO</sup>
3. They offer whoever can grasp this concept a sense of unity and connection. <sup>IO</sup>
4. Their explanation of this unity is that the same Supreme Being created all living things. <sup>PN</sup>
5. One of their beliefs, that the Navajo were once victims of a great flood, appears in other cultures as well. <sup>APP</sup>
6. They also believe that the number four is sacred. <sup>DO</sup>
7. With four seasons, four directions, four winds, four sacred mountains, and four sacred colors, the Navajo relate this number to why the universe operates smoothly. <sup>OP</sup>
8. They find progress through four worlds as what is necessary for spiritual growth. <sup>OC?</sup>
9. I often wonder when other cultures will discover the wisdom of the Navajo. <sup>DO</sup>
10. Our reaction to their concept of oneness may determine whether humans will survive in the centuries to come. <sup>DO</sup>

see answer key, pp. 455-56

### DIAGRAMMING THE NOUN CLAUSE

As we have seen, the noun clause is embedded within an independent clause. Therefore, to **diagram a noun clause, we need a tower or pedestal**, a structure that will allow us to raise the subject and verb of the dependent noun clause above the base line so that it will be separate from the subject and verb of the independent clause. Before we can diagram, though, we need to analyze how the noun clause relates to the sentence as a whole. One way to do this is to refer to the ten basic sentence patterns we have already learned. Consider the following sentence:

The teacher asked who could identify dependent clauses.



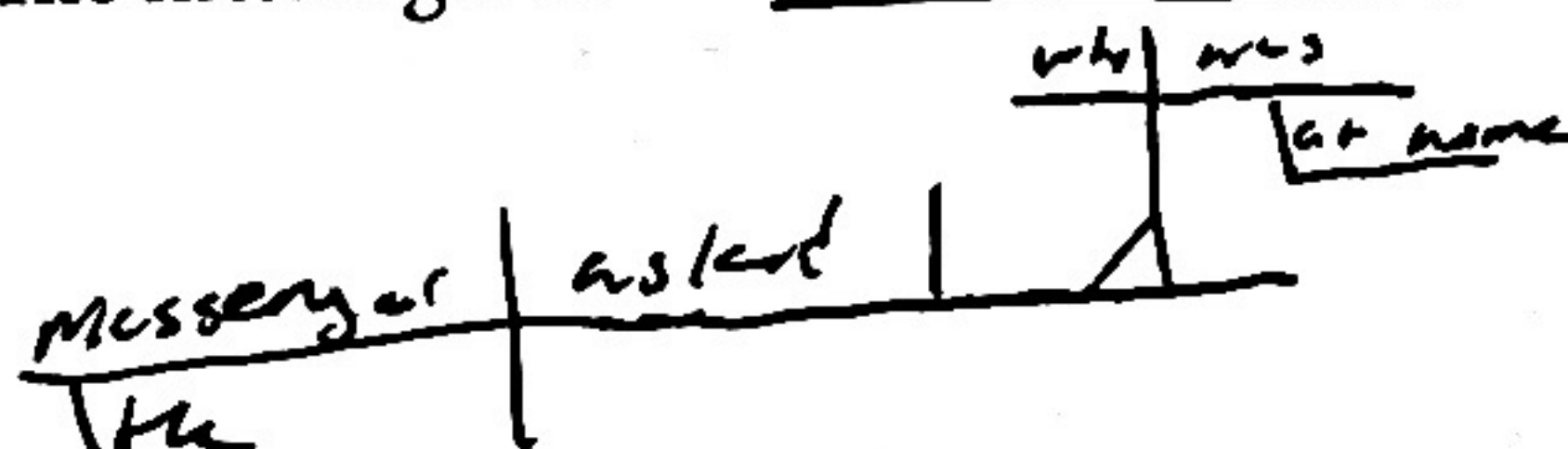
## EXERCISE 8.2

Follow these steps for the sentences below, all of which contain noun clauses:

- Underline the noun clause. ✓
- Label the noun function of each noun clause: subject (S), predicate noun (PN), object of preposition (OP), direct object (DO), indirect object (IO), objective complement (OC), or appositive (AP). Double-check your accuracy by replacing each noun clause with a pronoun ("it," "someone," or "something") or a single-word noun. ✓
- Determine the sentence pattern number for the sentence as a whole and also for the noun clause. ✓
- Diagram each sentence, remembering to place each noun clause on a pedestal in the same location you would place a pronoun or a single-word noun that could replace the noun clause.

1. The messenger asked who was at home. DO

SP 7  
NP 8



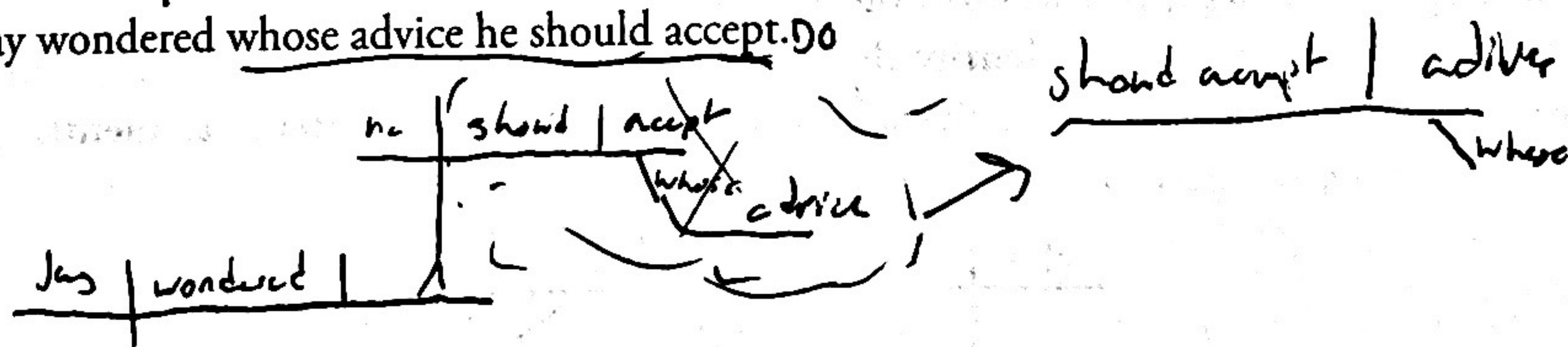
2. What will happen at the party is a secret. S

3 SP 8  
6 NP 8



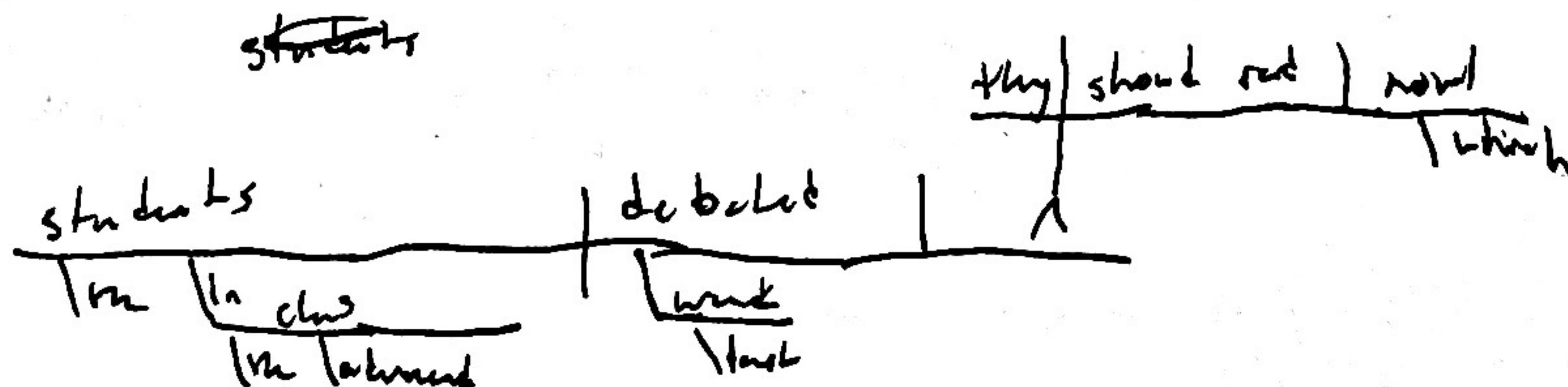
3. Jay wondered whose advice he should accept. DO

SP 7  
NP 7



4. Last week, the students in the advanced class debated which novel they should read. DO

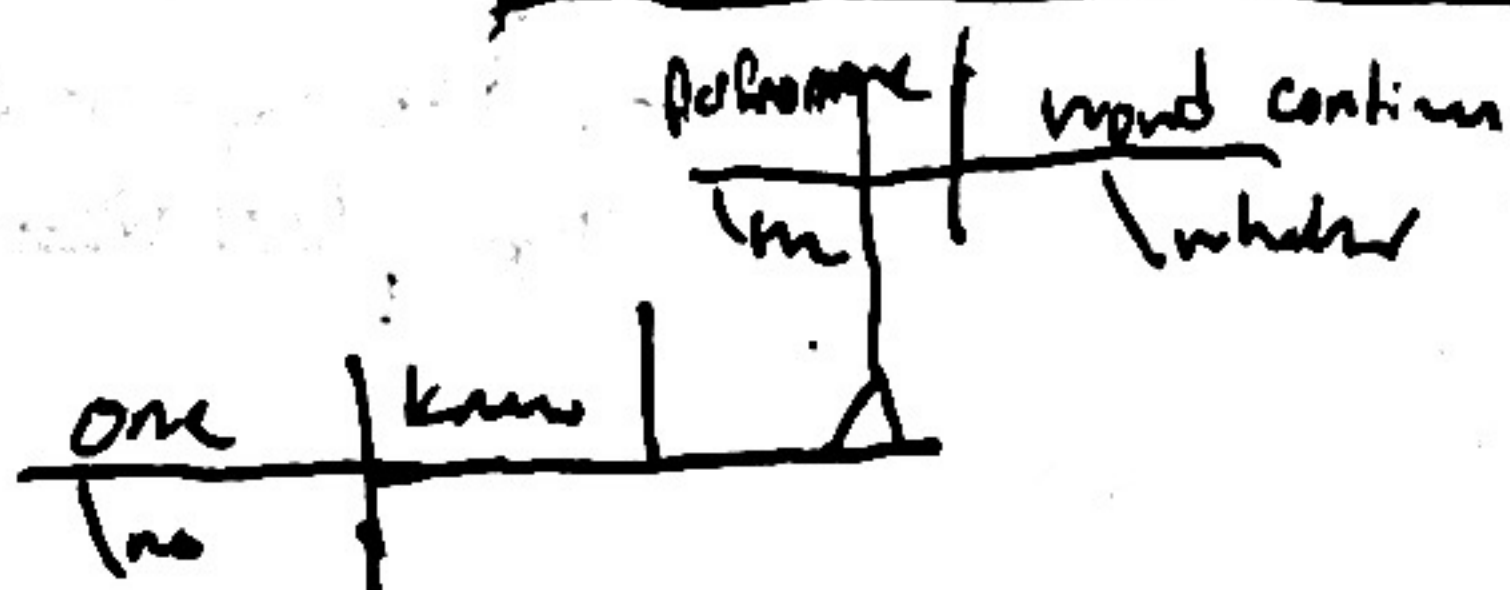
SP 7  
NP 7





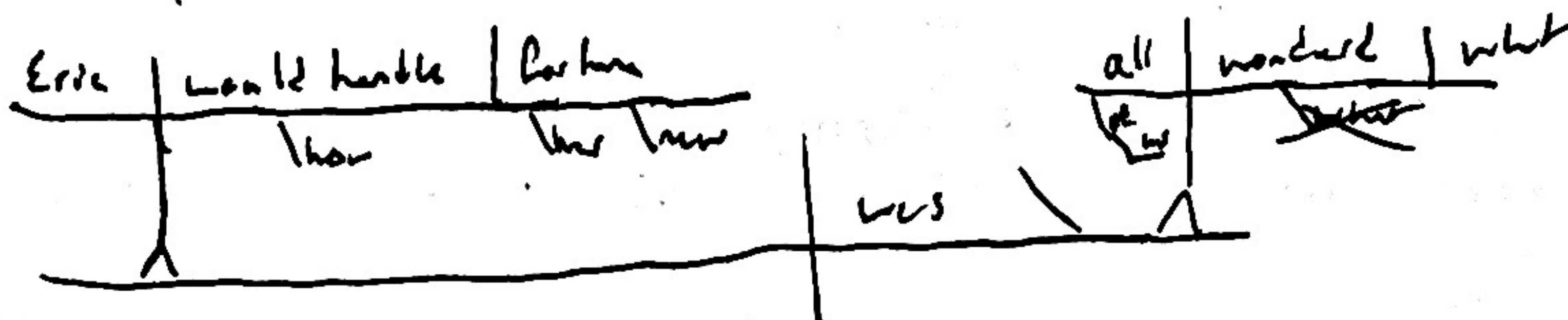
5. No one knew whether the performance would continue. DO

SP 7  
NP 7



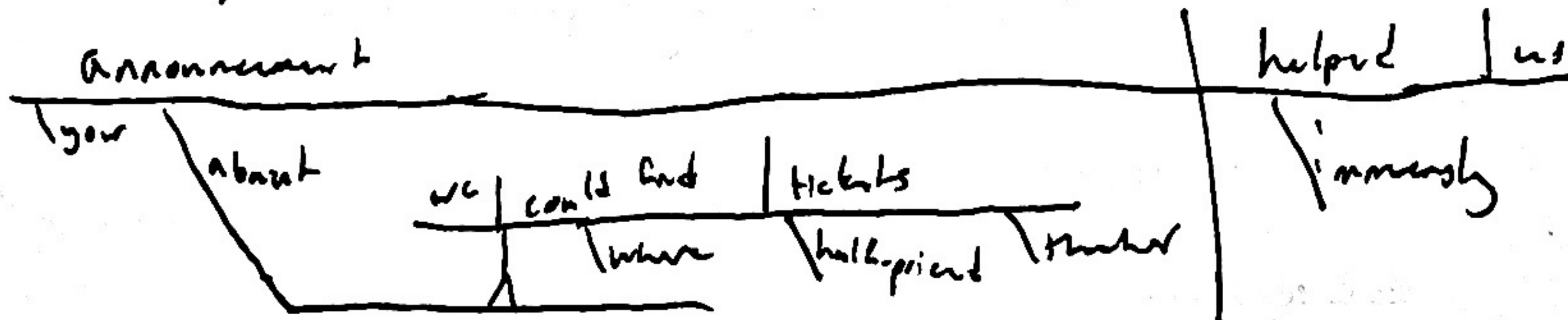
6. How Erica would handle her new fortune was what all of us wondered. PN

SP 3  
NP 7  
NP 8



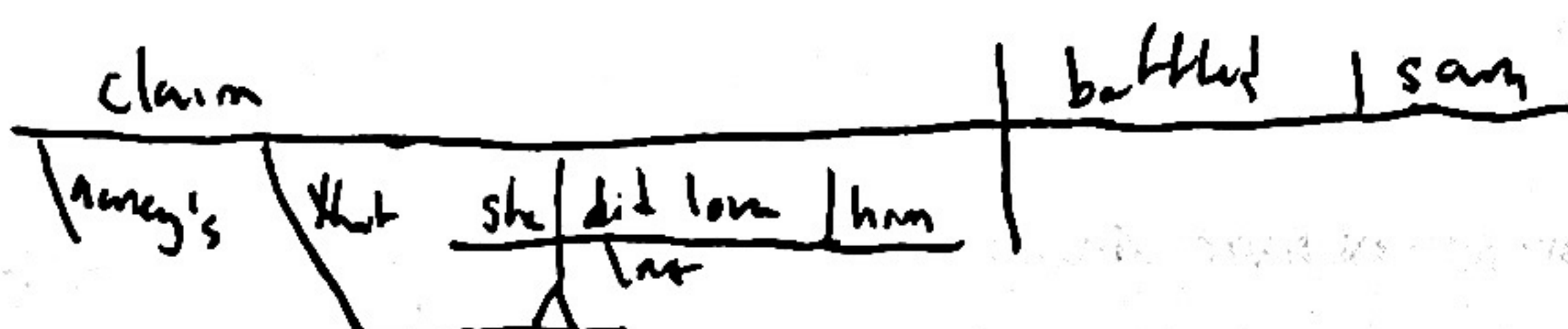
7. Your announcement about where we could find half-price theater tickets helped us immensely. OP

SP 7  
NP 7



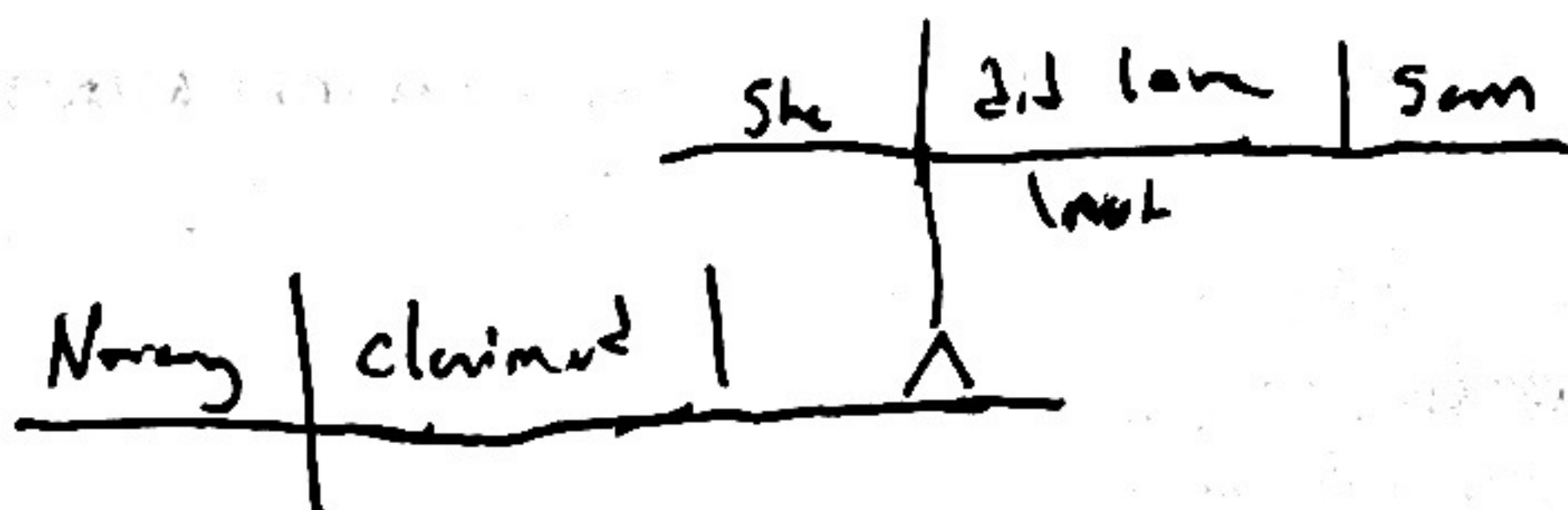
8. Nancy's claim, that she did not love him, baffled Sam. AP

SP 7  
NP 7



9. Nancy claimed she did not love Sam. DP

SP 7  
NP 7



10. We asked when the membership drive would begin. DO

SP 7  
NP 6

