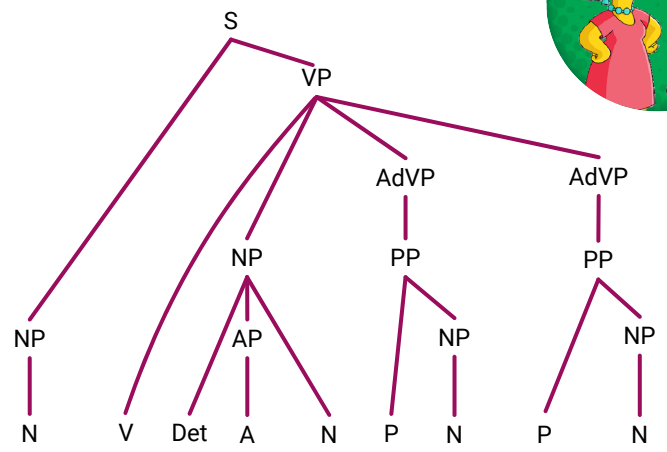
Semantic Roles

Example Sentence



Patty mailed a crazy letter to Selma from Borneo.

Patty and Selma: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S. (Executive Producers). (2013, September 10). *Patty and Selma crash back into Springfield at Level 35 with Disco Stu burning up dance floors in their wake. Play The Simpsons: Tapped Out today!* [Facebook, Timeline Photos] Retrieved from https://www.facebook.com/TheSimpsons/photos/a.473850413696.246070.29534858696/10151666167153697

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Example Sentence

Agent (does the mailing) | Patient (gets mailed) | Goal (destination of mailing) | Source (origin of mailing)

Patty mailed a crazy letter to Selma from Borneo.

Patty and Selma: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S. (Executive Producers). (2013, September 10). *Patty and Selma crash back into Springfield at Level 35 with Disco Stu burning up dance floors in their wake. Play The Simpsons: Tapped Out today!* [Facebook, Timeline Photos] Retrieved from https://www.facebook.com/TheSimpsons/photos/a.473850413696.246070.29534858696/10151666167153697; Hand: Noedelhap/iStock/Thinkstock

Event Schemas and Semantic Roles

- Being
- Happening
- Doing
- Experiencing
- Having
- Moving
- Transferring

} Complex

Homer is large.

Predicates a trait

Homer on scale: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2014.; Homer drinking in bar: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2016.; Homer with six-pack: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2015.; Homer loves beer: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2016.; Homer smiling: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2015.; Dog: Fox Flash (2009). "Santa's Little Helper". Wikimedia Commons.; Hearts, Bone: University of Waterloo.

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Event Schemas and Semantic Roles

- Being
- Happening
- Doing
- Experiencing
- Having
- Moving
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} Complex

The beer gets consumed.

Predicates an occurrence

Homer on scale: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2014.; Homer drinking in bar: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2016.; Homer with six-pack: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2015.; Homer loves beer: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2016.; Homer smiling: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2015.; Dog: Fox Flash (2009). "Santa's Little Helper". Wikimedia Commons.; Hearts, Bone: University of Waterloo.

Event Schemas and Semantic Roles

- Being
- Happening
- Doing
- Experiencing
- Having
- Moving
- Transferring

} Complex

Homer is drinking.

Predicates an activity

Homer on scale: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2014.; Homer drinking in bar: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2016.; Homer with six-pack: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2015.; Homer loves beer: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2016.; Homer smiling: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2015.; Dog: Fox Flash (2009). "Santa's Little Helper". Wikimedia Commons.; Hearts, Bone: University of Waterloo.

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Event Schemas and Semantic Roles

- Being
- Happening
- Doing
- Experiencing
- Having
- Moving
- Transferring

} Complex

Homer loves beer.

Predicates an experience

Homer on scale: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2014.; Homer drinking in bar: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2016.; Homer with six-pack: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2015.; Homer loves beer: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2016.; Homer smiling: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2015.; Dog: Fox Flash (2009). "Santa's Little Helper". Wikimedia Commons.; Hearts, Bone: University of Waterloo.

Event Schemas and Semantic Roles

- Being
- Happening
- Doing
- Experiencing
- Having
- Moving
- Transferring

} Complex

Homer has a six pack.

Predicates possession

Homer on scale: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2014.; Homer drinking in bar: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2016.; Homer with six-pack: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2015.; Homer loves beer: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2016.; Homer smiling: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2015.; Dog: Fox Flash (2009). "Santa's Little Helper". Wikimedia Commons.; Hearts, Bone: University of Waterloo.

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Event Schemas and Semantic Roles

- Being
- Happening
- Doing
- Experiencing
- Having
- Moving
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} Complex

Homer leaves.

Predicates motion

Homer on scale: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2014.; Homer drinking in bar: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2016.; Homer with six-pack: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2015.; Homer loves beer: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2016.; Homer smiling: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2015.; Dog: Fox Flash (2009). "Santa's Little Helper". Wikimedia Commons.; Hearts, Bone: University of Waterloo.

Event Schemas and Semantic Roles

- Being
- Happening
- Doing
- Experiencing
- Having
- Moving
- Transferring

} Complex

Homer throws the dog a bone.

Predicates motion with a destination

Homer on scale: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2014.; Homer drinking in bar: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2016.; Homer with six-pack: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2015.; Homer loves beer: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2016.; Homer smiling: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S./Facebook, 2015.; Dog: Fox Flash (2009). "Santa's Little Helper". Wikimedia Commons.; Hearts, Bone: University of Waterloo.

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Event Schemas and Semantic Roles

Role	Definition
Agent	The entity that performs the action.
Experiencer	The entity that experiences the state.
Instrument	The object used to perform the action.
Patient	The entity undergoing the action; the object of the experience.
Source	The starting point for a movement.
Goal	The end point for a movement.
Location	The place an action happens.

Grammatical vs. Semantic Roles

Subject	Verb	Object	WITH-Object
Homer agent	fed	the dog. patient	
Homer experiencer	loved	the dog. patient	
Homer agent	pleased	the dog. experiencer	
Homer agent	cleaned	himself patient	with the dog. instrument

***Grammatical Roles**
*Semantic Roles

Dog: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S/Facebook, 2015.; Hand: Noedelhap/iStock/Thinkstock

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Slide 6: Dog: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S. (Executive Producers). (2015, November 8). *West Coast- Santa's Little Helper is begging you to watch an all-new episode of The Simpsons, right now!* [Facebook, Timeline Photos] Retrieved from https://www.facebook.com/TheSimpsons/photos/a.473850413696.246070.29534858696/10153263218318697

Slide 7: Dog: Brooks, J. L., Groening, M., & Simon, S. (Executive Producers). (2015, November 8). *West Coast- Santa's Little Helper is begging you to watch an all-new episode of The Simpsons, right now!* [Facebook, Timeline Photos] Retrieved from https://www.facebook.com/TheSimpsons/photos/a.473850413696.246070.29534858696/10153263218318697

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