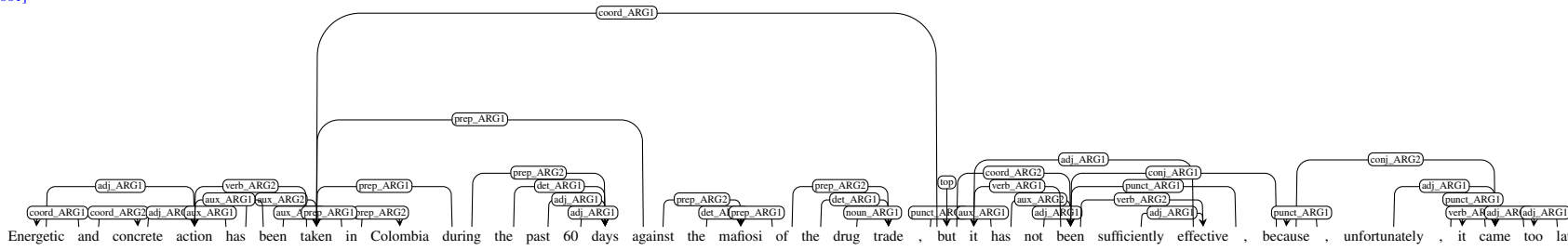
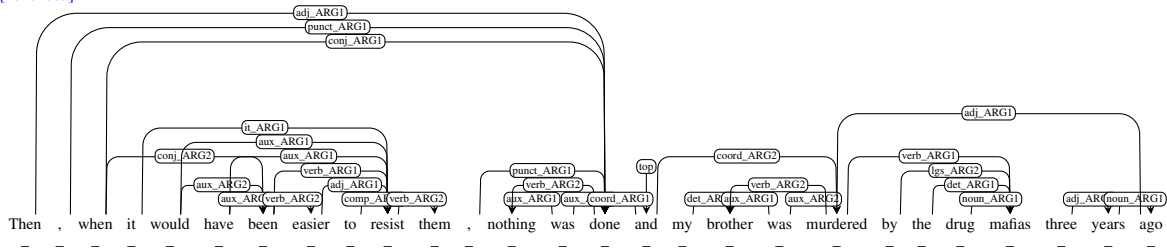


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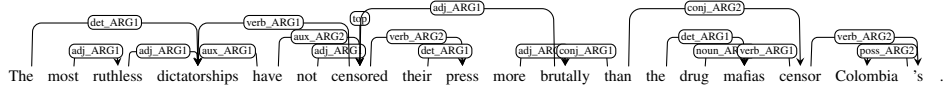
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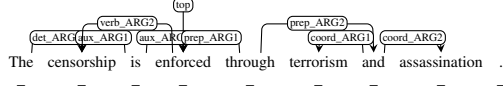
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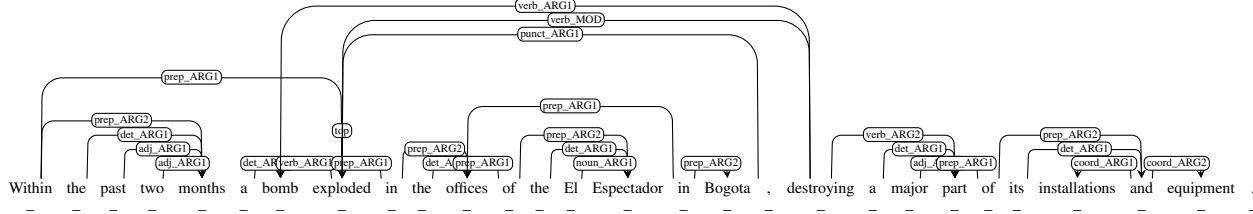
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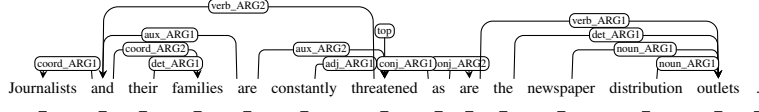
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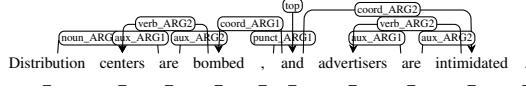
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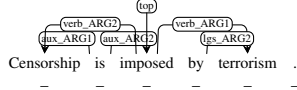
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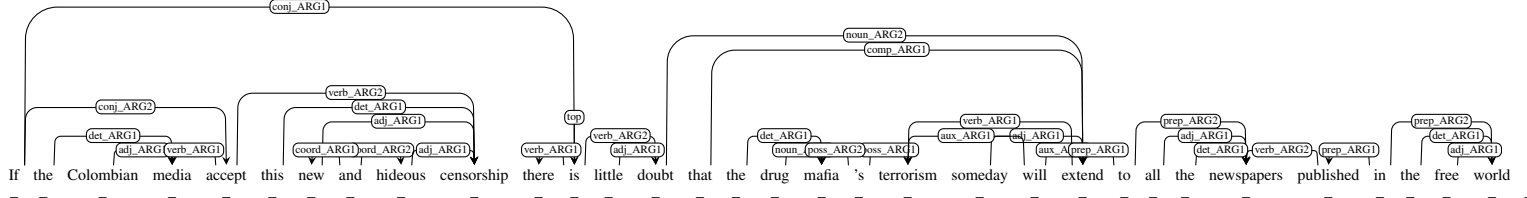
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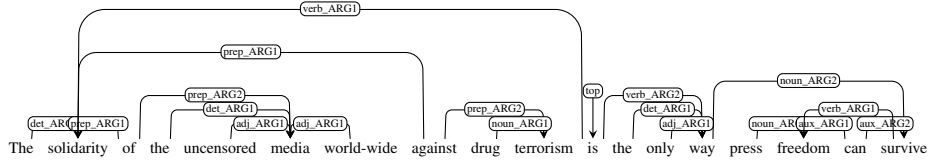
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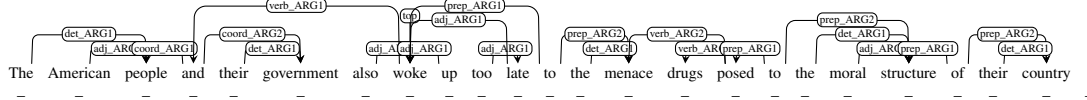
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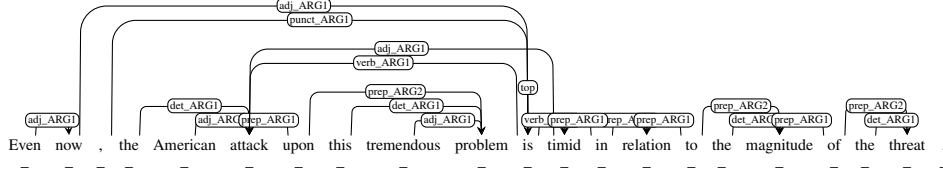
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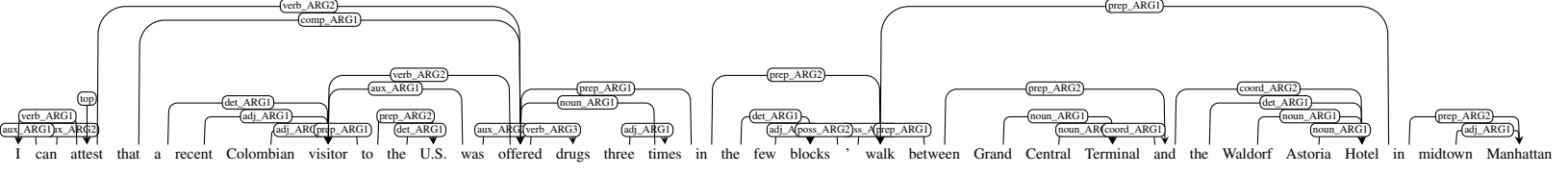
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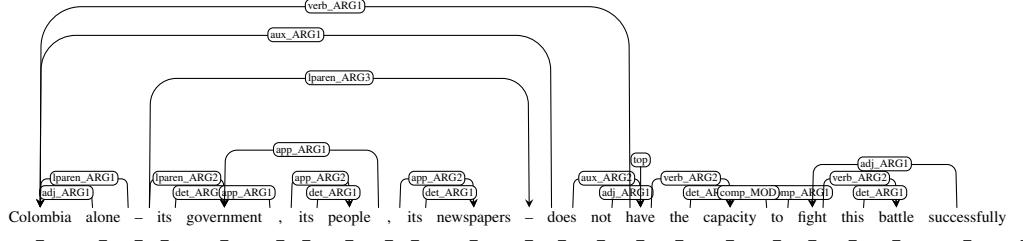
[20764015]



[20764016]



[20764017]



[20764018]

All drug-consuming countries must jointly decide to combat and punish the consumers and distributors of drugs .

[20764019]

The U.S. , as the major drug consumer , should lead this joint effort .

[20764020]

Reduction , if not the total cessation , of drug consumption is the requirement for victory .

[20764021]

Much is being done in Colombia to fight the drug cartel mafia .

[20764023]

More than 300 planes and helicopters have been impounded at airports , and a large number of vehicles and launches has been confiscated .

[20764024]

The military has also captured enormous arsenals of powerful and sophisticated weapons , explosives and other war-like materiel .

[20764025]

Much has been accomplished and public opinion decisively supports the government and the army - but , on the other hand , none of the key drug barons have been captured .

[20764026]

There has been a lot of talk that a large portion of the Colombian economy is sustained by the laundering of drug money .

[20764027]

In my opinion , this is not true .

[20764028]

Laundered drug money has served only to increase , unrealistically , the price of real estate , creating serious problems for low-income people who aspire to own their own homes .

[20764029]

Drug money has also gone to buy expensive cars , airplanes , launches and nightclubs where drugs are consumed .

[20764030]

But most of the drug money is kept in investments and in financial institutions outside Colombia .

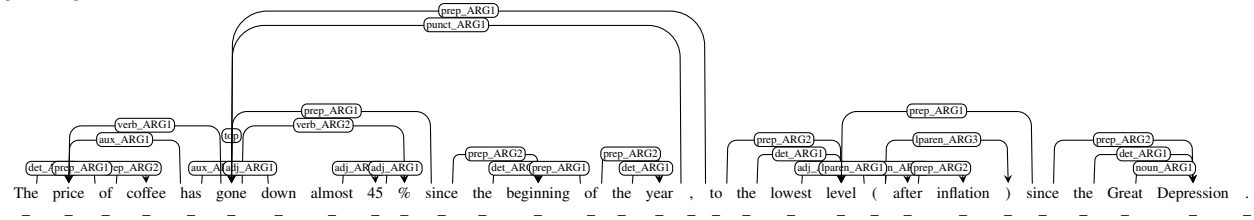
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In fact , the cooperation of those financial institutions is essential to the success of the drug battle .

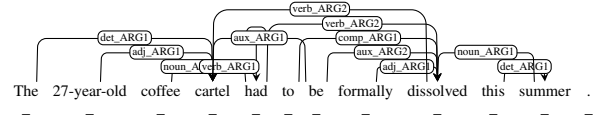
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What is of much more importance to the Colombian economy than the supposed benefits of laundered drug money is higher prices for Colombia 's legitimate products .

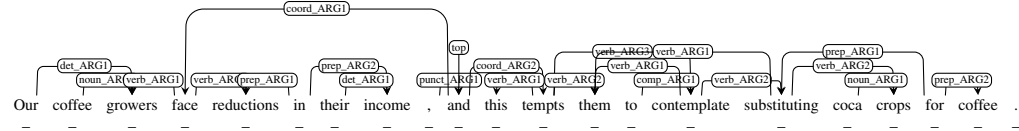
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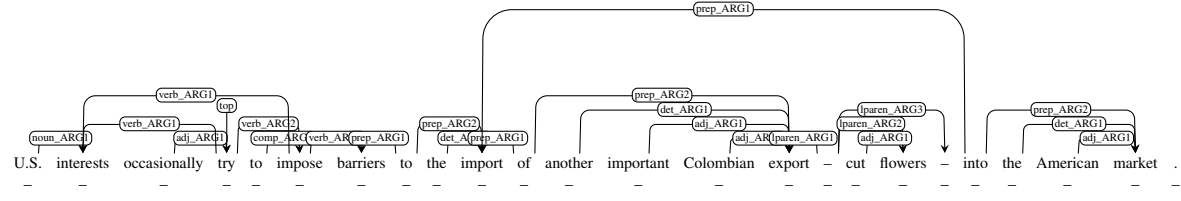
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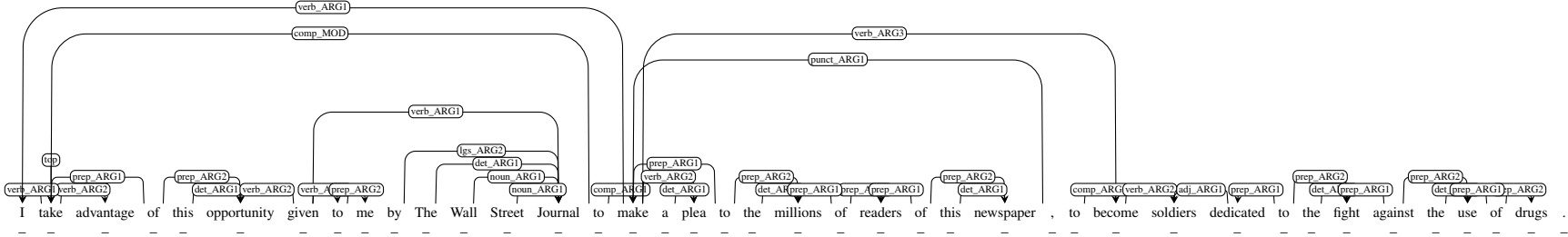
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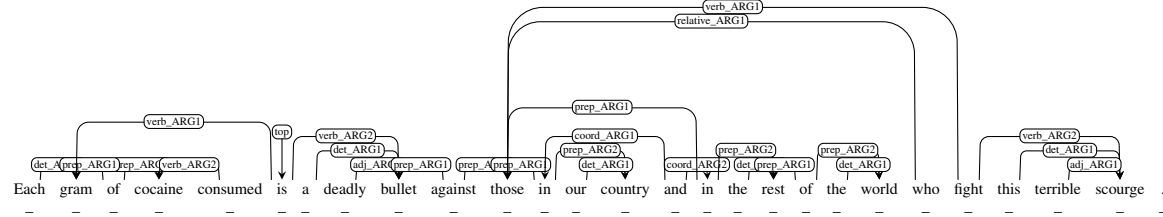
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[20764040]



[20764041]



[20764043]

