





SENTENCE
MEANING

OUTLINE

OUTLINE

SECTION POINT

SECTION POINT

1. SEMANTICS

SECTION POINT

1. SEMANTICS

2. MEANING

SECTION POINT

1. SEMANTICS

2. MEANING

3. NOUN PHRASES

REFERENCE

- SPECIFIC
- NON-SPECIFIC

OUTLINE

SECTION POINT

SECTION POINT

4.

VERB PHRASES

- SITUATION
- TENSE
- ASPECT

SITUATION TYPES

SECTION POINT

4. VERB PHRASES

- SITUATION
- TENSE
- ASPECT

SITUATION TYPES

5. CONCLUSION

5

*S"au"to
Diction"ry Mea"nings*

5

*S"nake
Dictionary of Meanings*

Semantics

- Branch of linguistics specialised in the study of meaning

Semantics

- Branch of linguistics specialised in the study of meaning

Meaning

- Information inseparably linked to the forms of language

OUTLINE

SEMANTICS

MEANING



The Principle of Compositionality



The Principle of Compositionality

- The meaning of a sentence is determined by the way in which words have been combined

NOUN PHRASES IN SENTENCE MEANING

OUTLINE

SEMANTICS

MEANING

NOUN PHRASES

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MEANING

NOUN PHRASES

Referents

- **Mr. Robinson** has arrived at the airport.
- **The president** has arrived at the airport.

Referents

- **Mr. Robinson** has arrived at the airport.
- **The president** has arrived at the airport.

Reference

- Relation between the NP and the referents

OUTLINE

SEMANTICS

MEANING

NOUN PHRASES

Reference

Reference

■ Specific

Reference

- Specific
- Non-specific

Reference

- Specific ↗ Definite → the referent can be identified by the hearer
- Non-specific

Reference

- Specific < Definite → the referent can be identified by the hearer
Indefinite → the referent cannot be identified by the hearer
- Non-specific

Reference

- Specific < Definite → the referent can be identified by the hearer
Indefinite → the referent cannot be identified by the hearer

- Non-specific ↗ Generic → not concerns a particular person or object

Reference

- Specific < Definite → the referent can be identified by the hearer
Indefinite → the referent cannot be identified by the hearer

- Non-specific < Generic → not concerns a particular person or object
Categorical → random member of the category

OUTLINE

SEMANTICS

MEANING

NOUN PHRASES

Deixis

Deixis

- Words refer to entities that can be identified on the basis of a common frame of reference

Deixis

- Words refer to entities that can be identified on the basis of a common frame of reference
- The reference is dependent on the speech situation

OUTLINE

SEMANTICS

MEANING

NOUN PHRASES

Anaphoric Reference

Anaphoric Reference

- Refers to the antecedent

Anaphoric Reference

- Refers to the antecedent
- The reference is dependent
on the surrounding text

VERB PHRASES IN SENTENCE MEANING

NTICS

MEANING

NOUN PHRASES

VERB PHRASES

NTICS

MEANING

NOUN PHRASES

VERB PHRASES

Situation

- Collection of circumstances at a certain moment

Situation

- Collection of circumstances at a certain moment

Tenses

- **Absolute tense** interpreted in the speech moment
- **Relative tense** interpreted in the moment of speaking

NTICS

MEANING

NOUN PHRASES

VERB PHRASES

Aspect

Aspect

- Specifies the temporal perspective from which the speaker is presenting the situation

Aspect

- Specifies the temporal perspective from which the speaker is presenting the situation
 - **perfective** presented as a finished and completed whole

Aspect

- Specifies the temporal perspective from which the speaker is presenting the situation
 - **perfective** presented as a finished and completed whole
 - **imperfective** presented as being in progress

NTICS

MEANING

NOUN PHRASES

VERB PHRASES

Situation Types

Situation Types

- **dynamic** something changes
- **static** nothing is changed

Situation Types

- **dynamic** something changes
 - **static** nothing is changed
-
- **controlled** controls the situation
 - **non-controlled** does not control the situation

GENERAL CONCLUSION

GENERAL CONCLUSION

- importance of the different meaning that every sentence has

GENERAL CONCLUSION

- importance of the different meaning that every sentence has
- relation between syntax and compositional semantics

English
Studies
UdL

