

# **Strategies for constructions**

**Encoding, system, recruitment**

**Bill Croft, February 1, 2025**

# KEY



taxonomic relation



relation to **construction** expressed by strategy



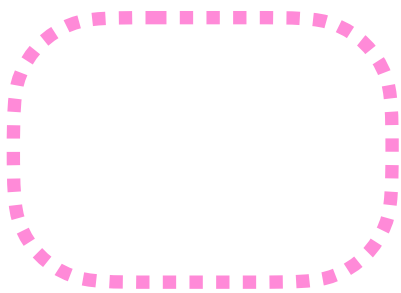
relation to **model construction** (system of strategies)



relation to **source construction** (recruitment strategies)



partonomic relation



constructions covered in a chapter of *Morphosyntax*

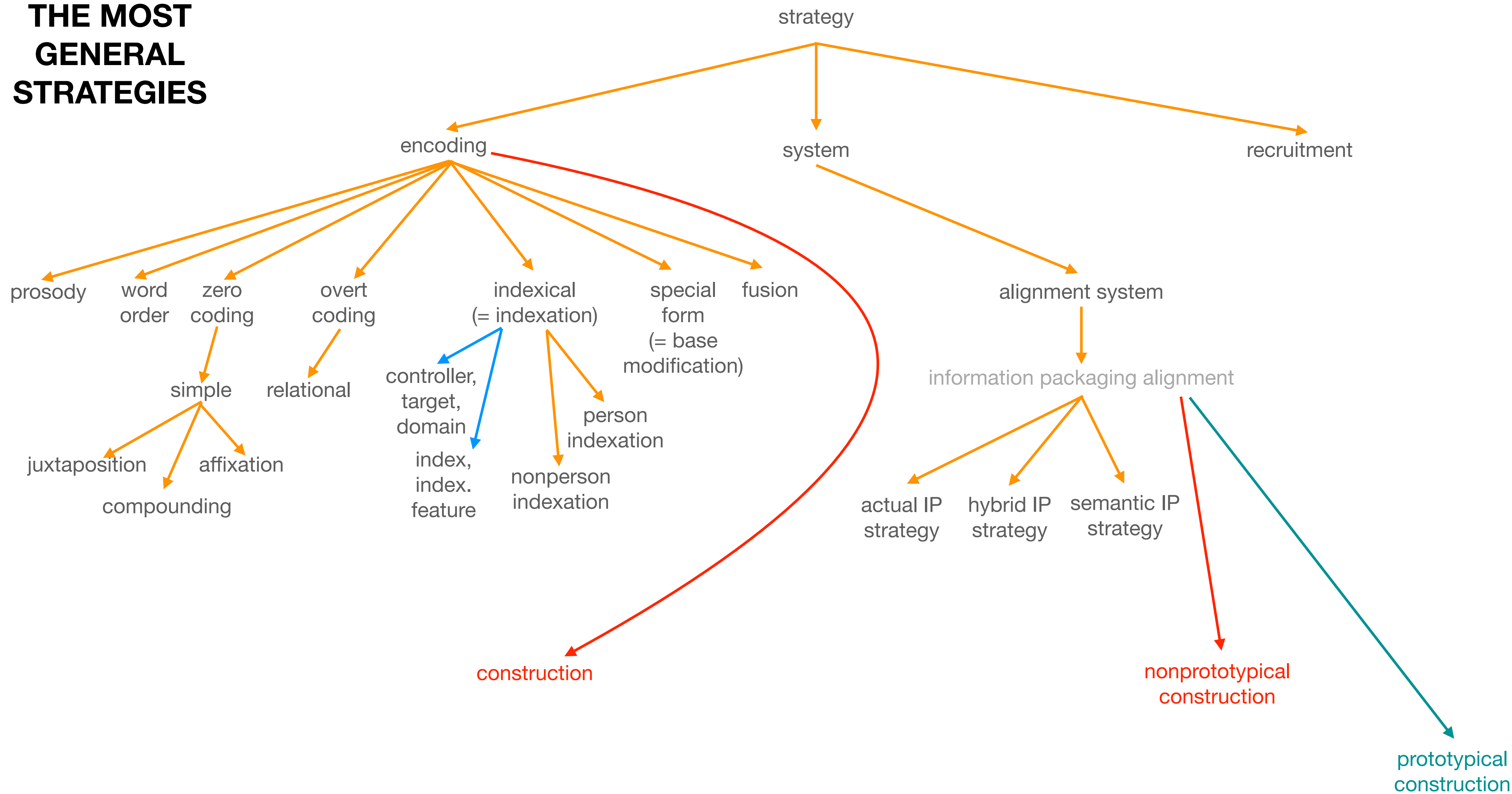
strategy

[half-tone color] strategy (or construction) term not in *Morphosyntax* (but should be)

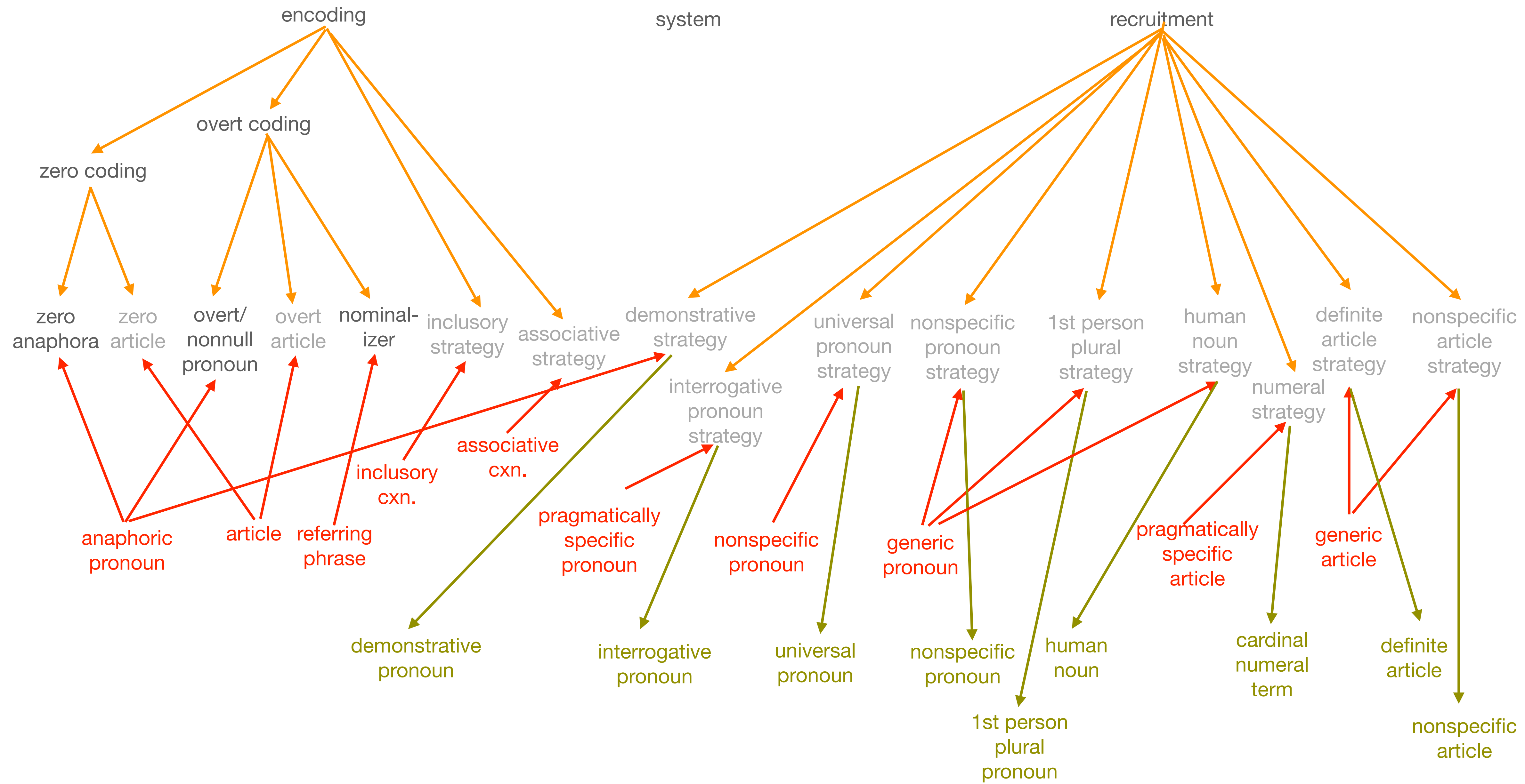


this tree is linked to Tree # at this node

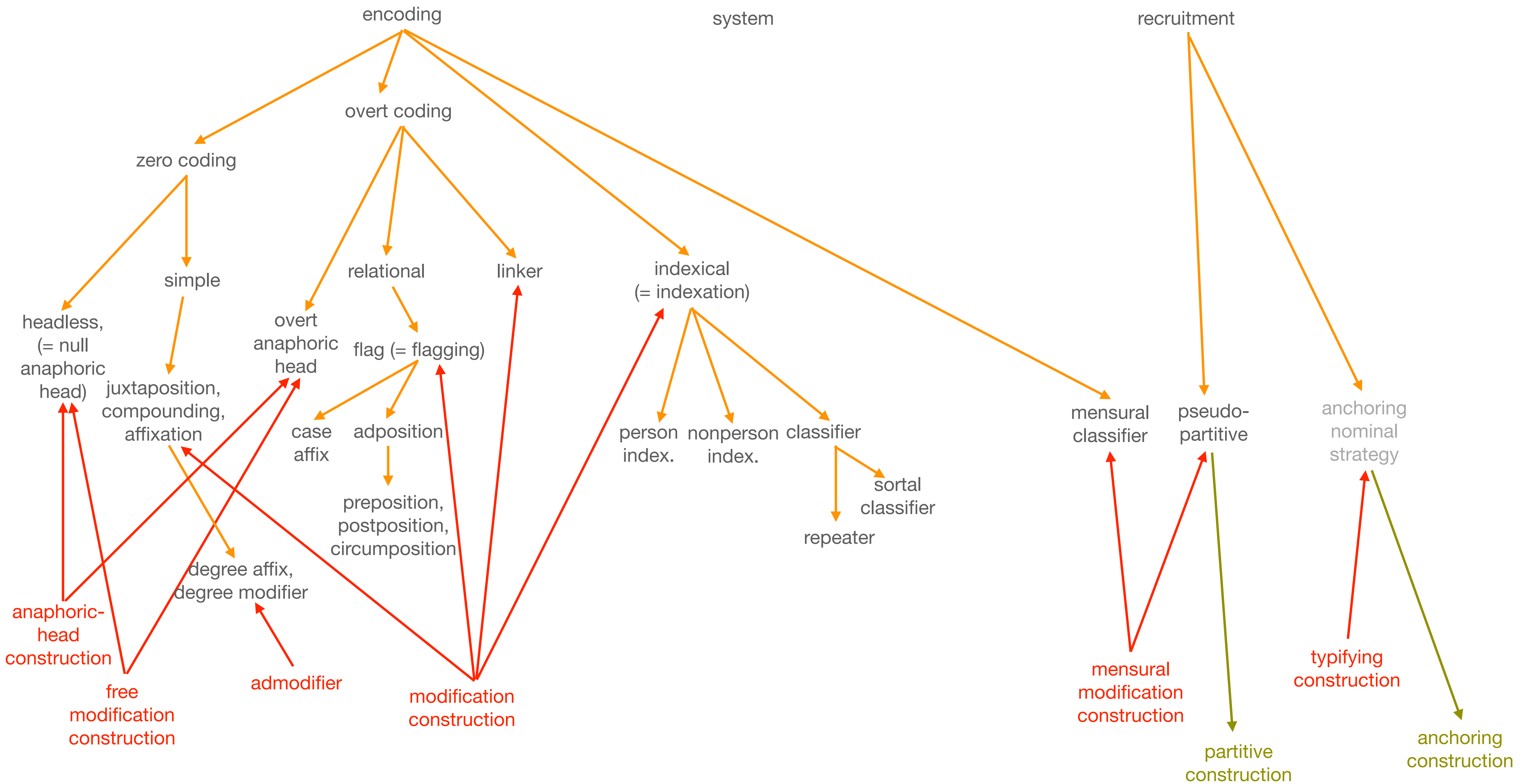
# THE MOST GENERAL STRATEGIES



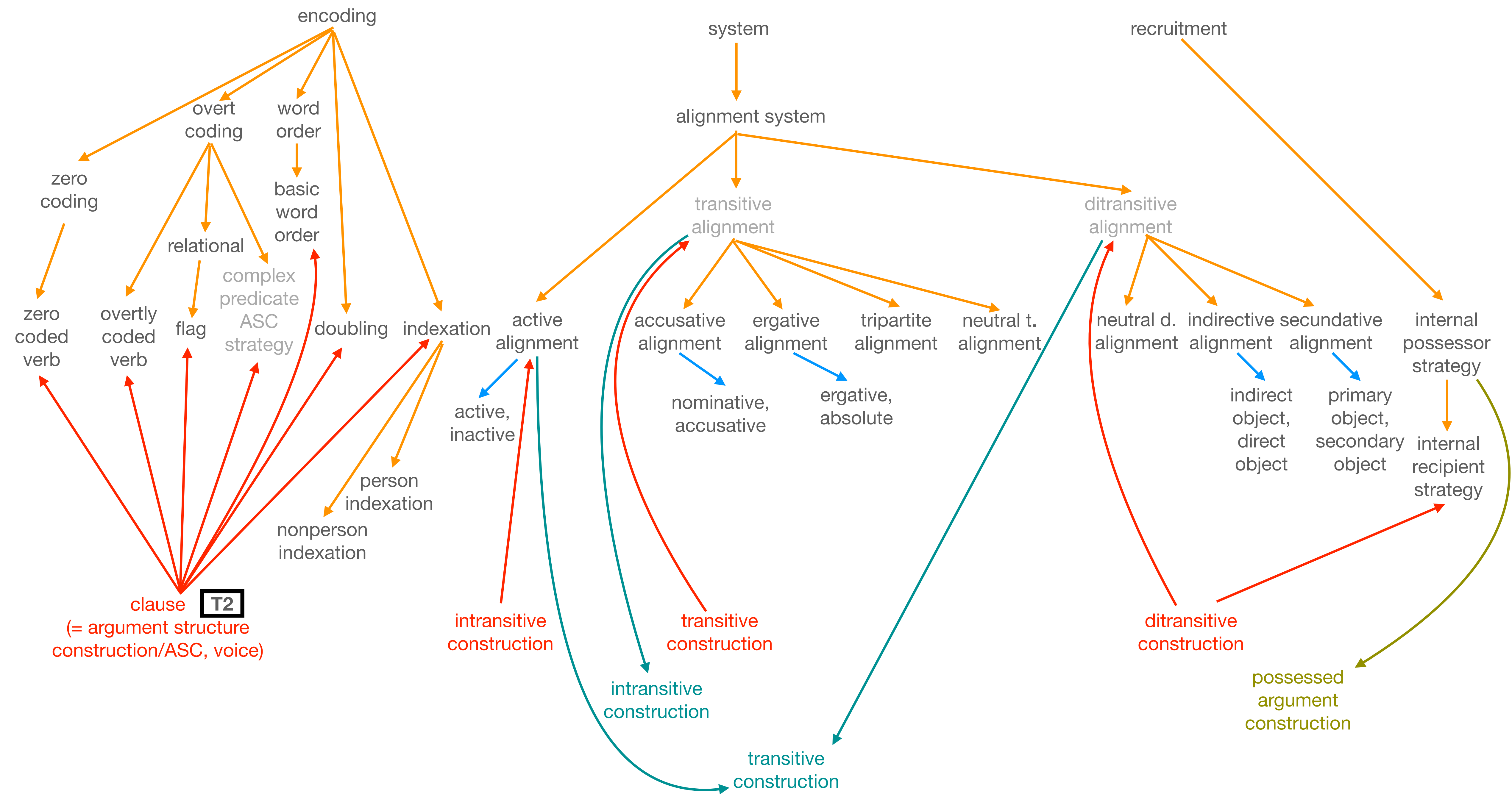
Tree 1



Tree 2

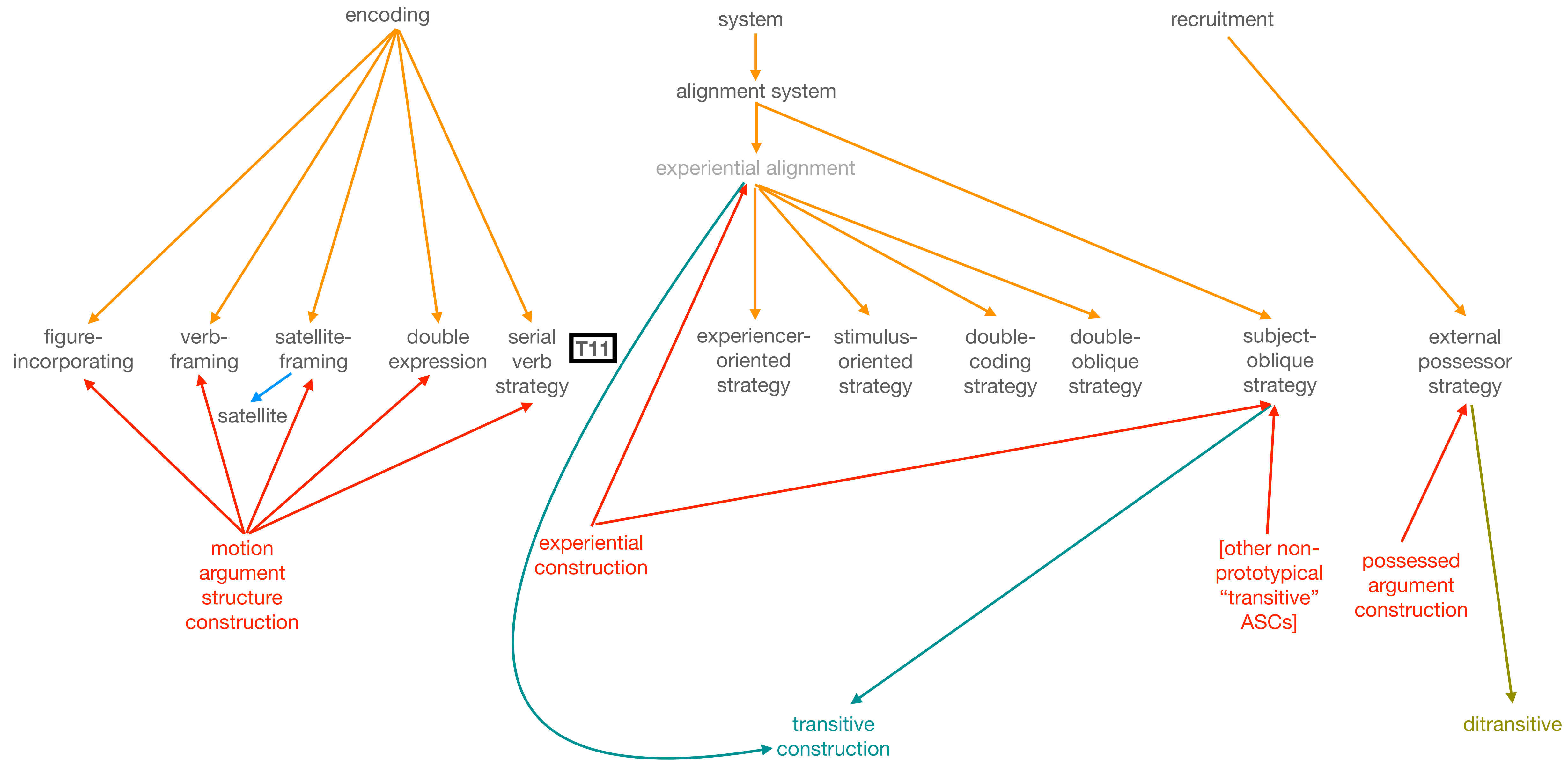


Tree 3

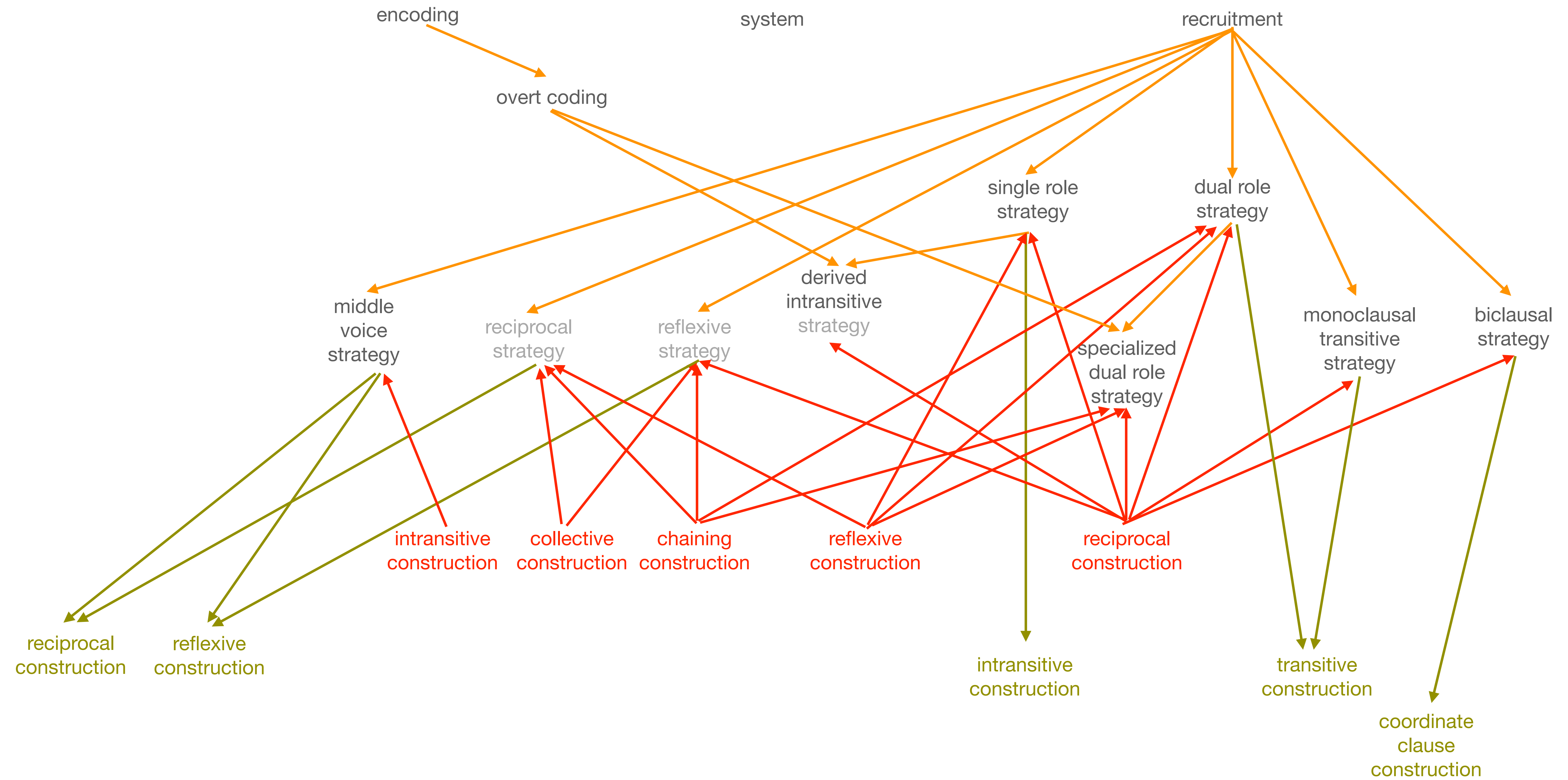




Tree 4

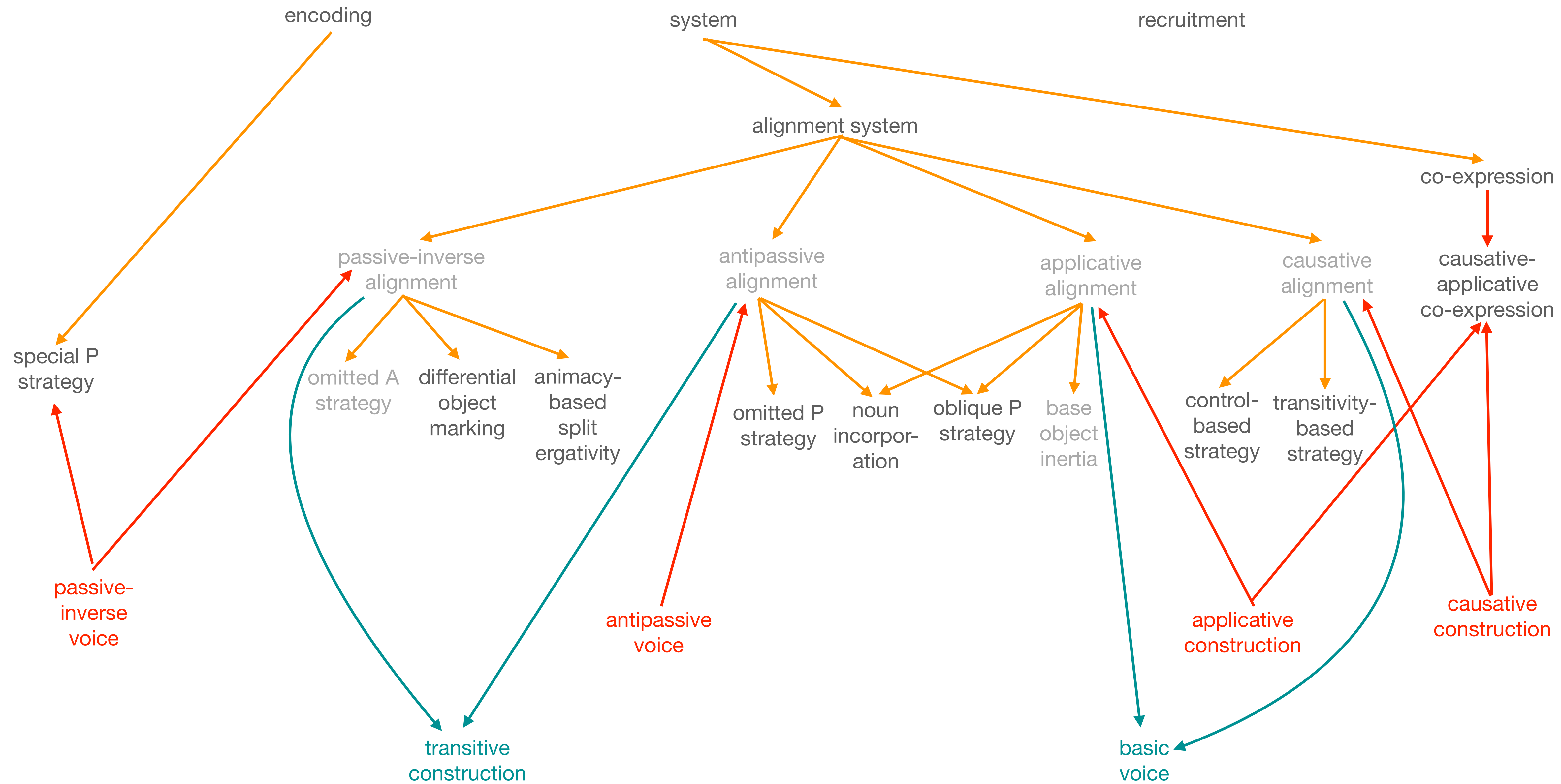


Tree 5

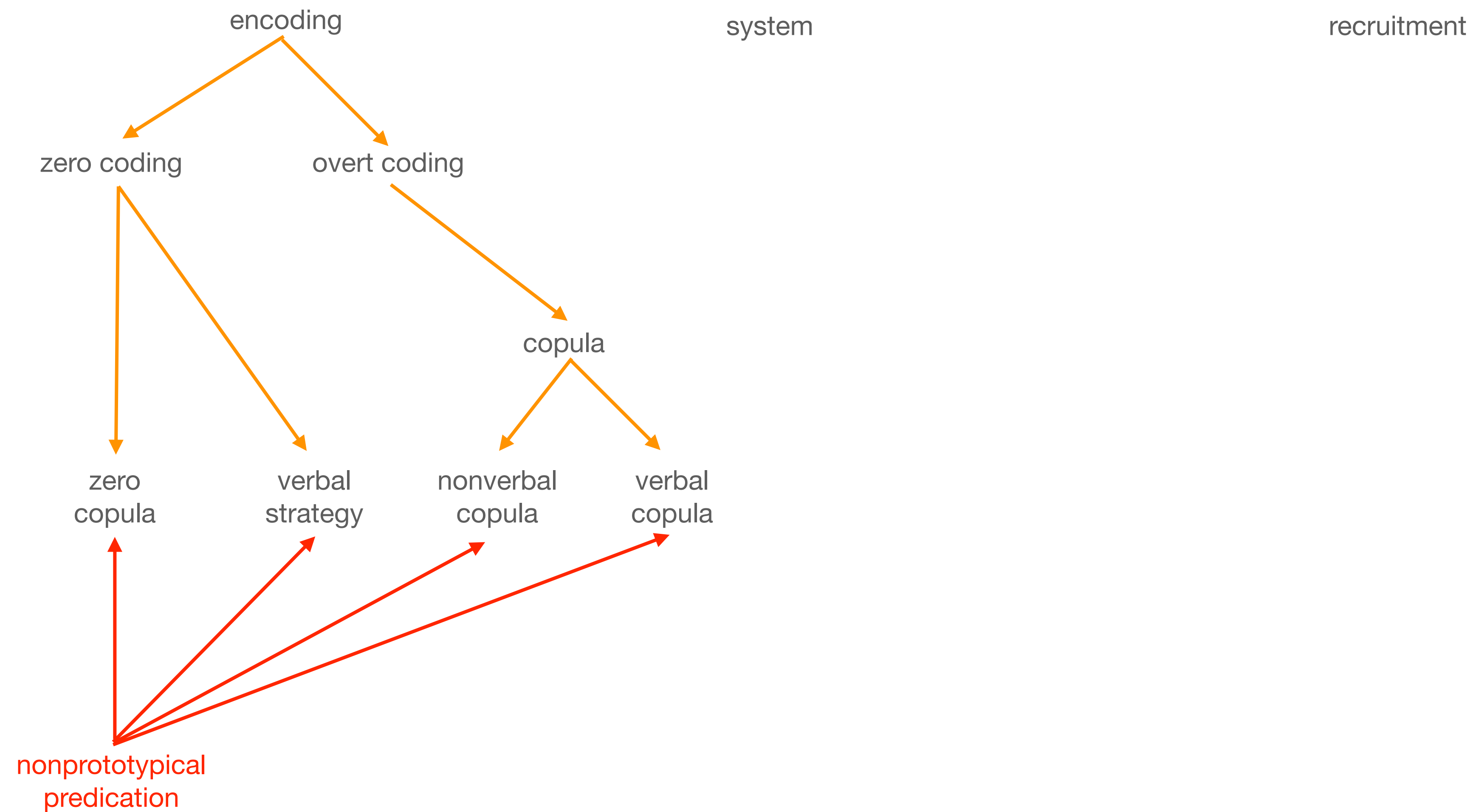




Tree 6

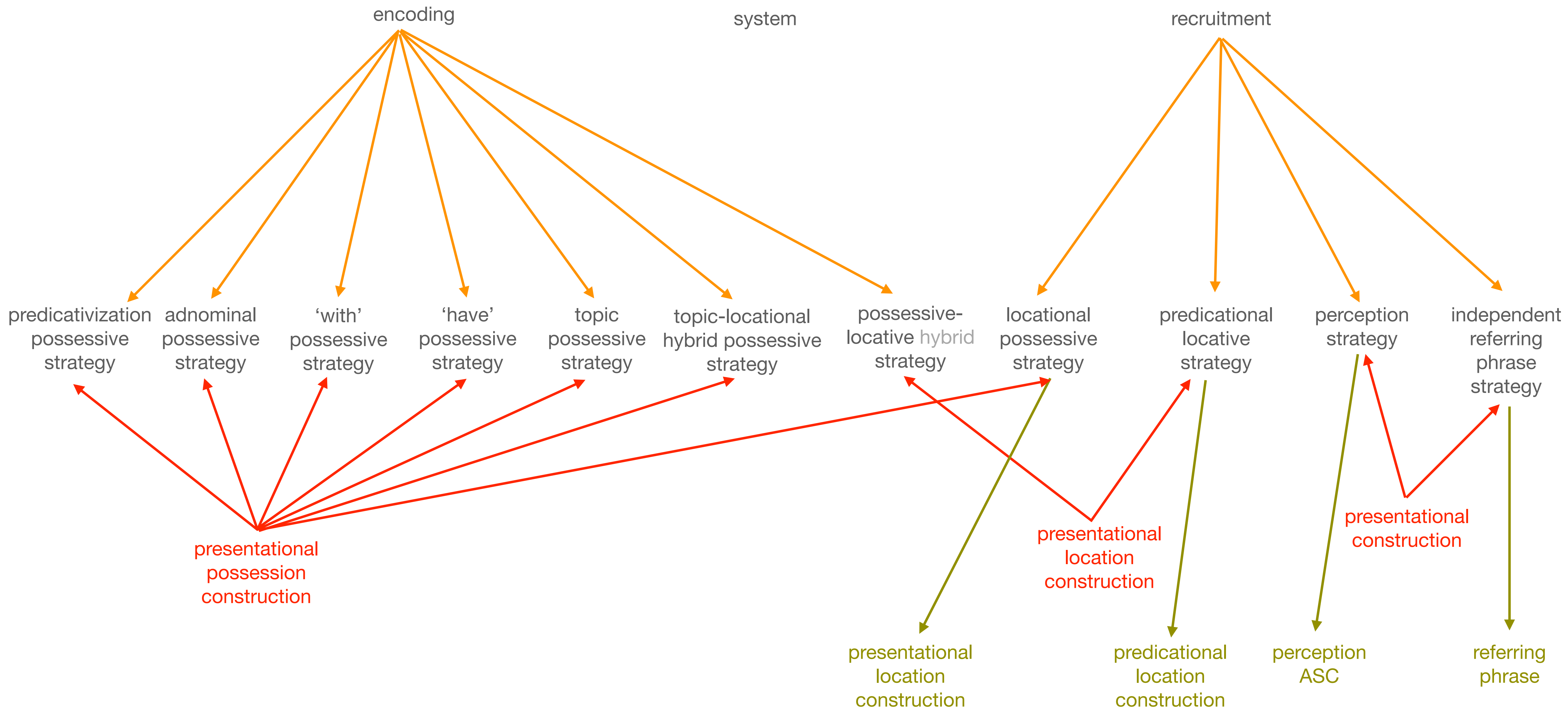


Tree 7

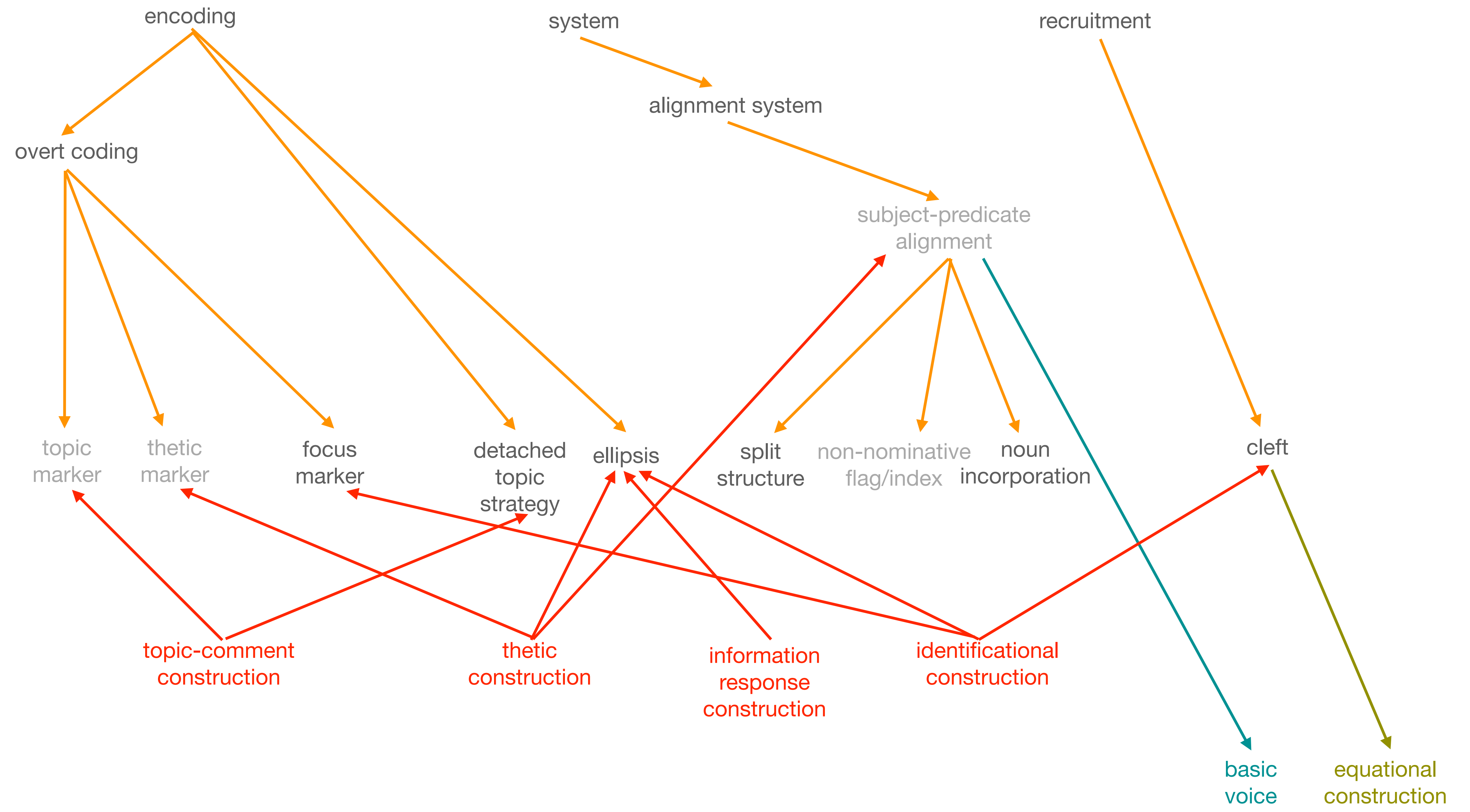


NB: Stassen defines a ‘nominal strategy’ that subsumes zero and nonverbal copula, which was included in the Glossary of *Morphosyntax*. But his motivation for this supertype is that both zero and nonverbal copula diachronically originate in the equational construction. Since strategies are defined only synchronically, ‘nominal strategy’ has been left out.

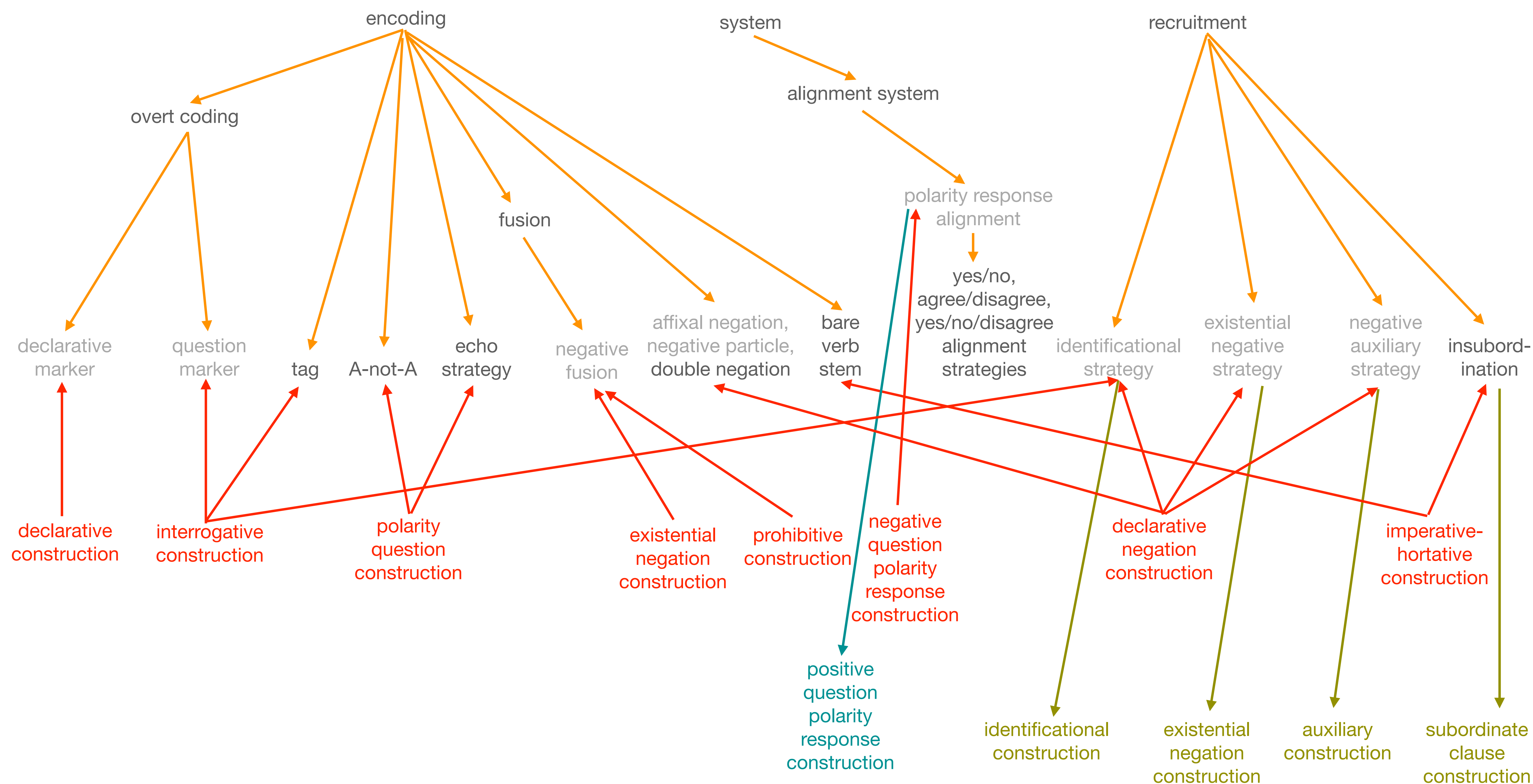
Tree 8

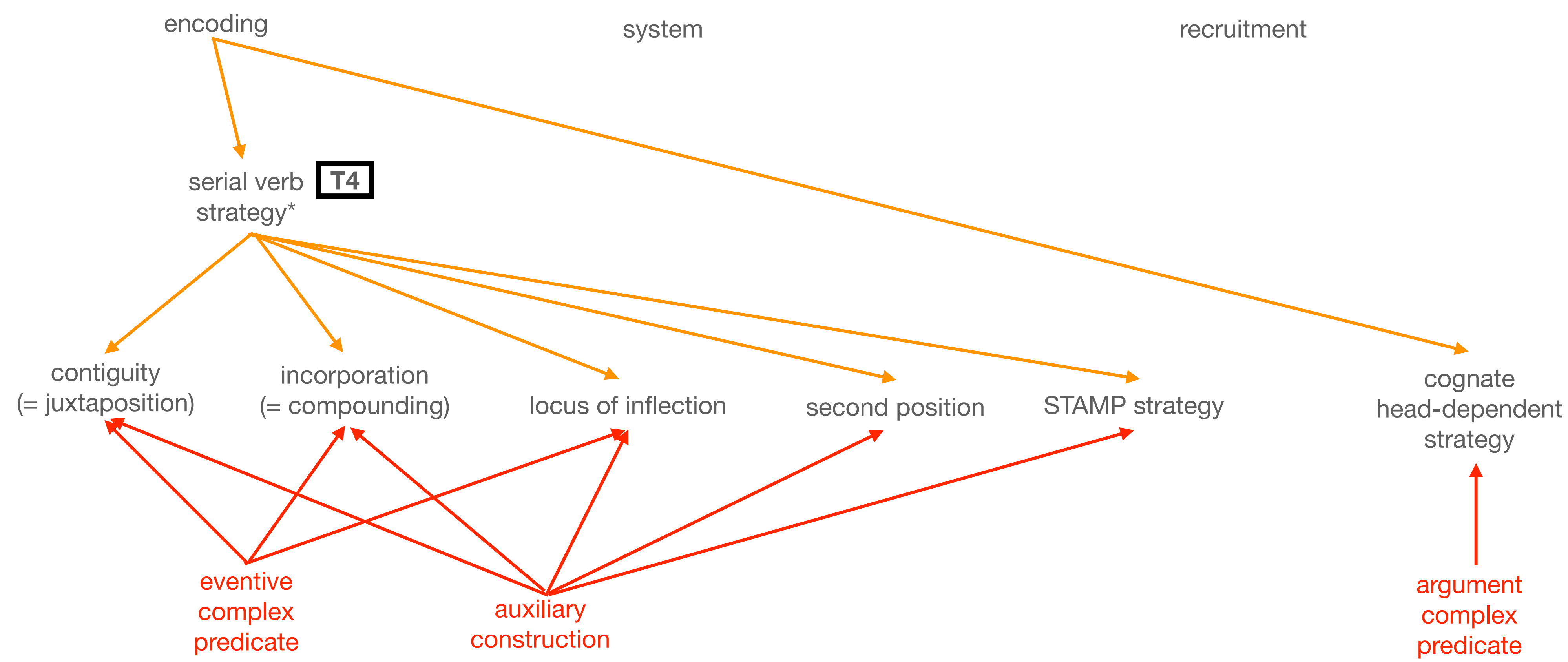


Tree 9



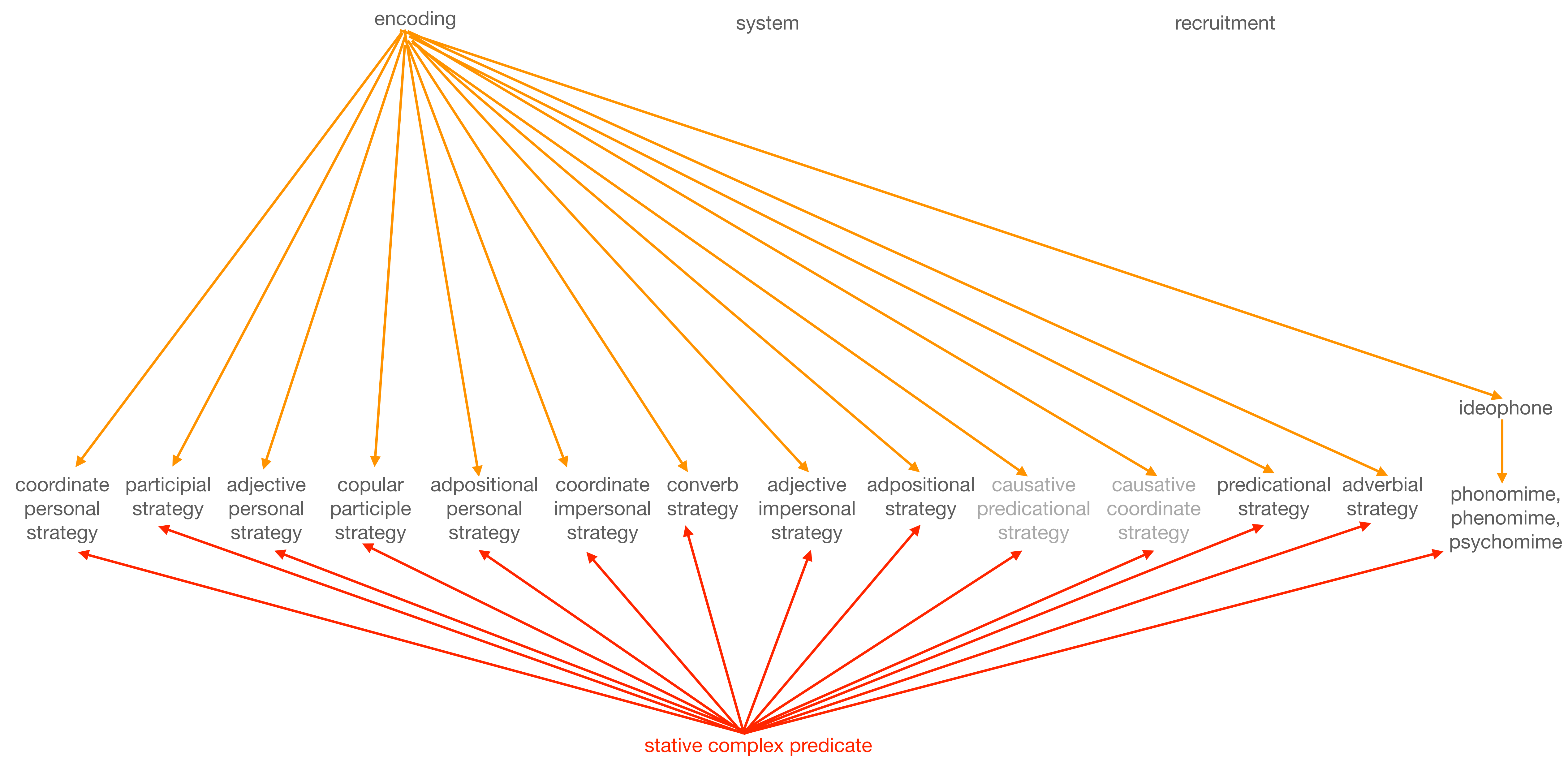
Tree 10





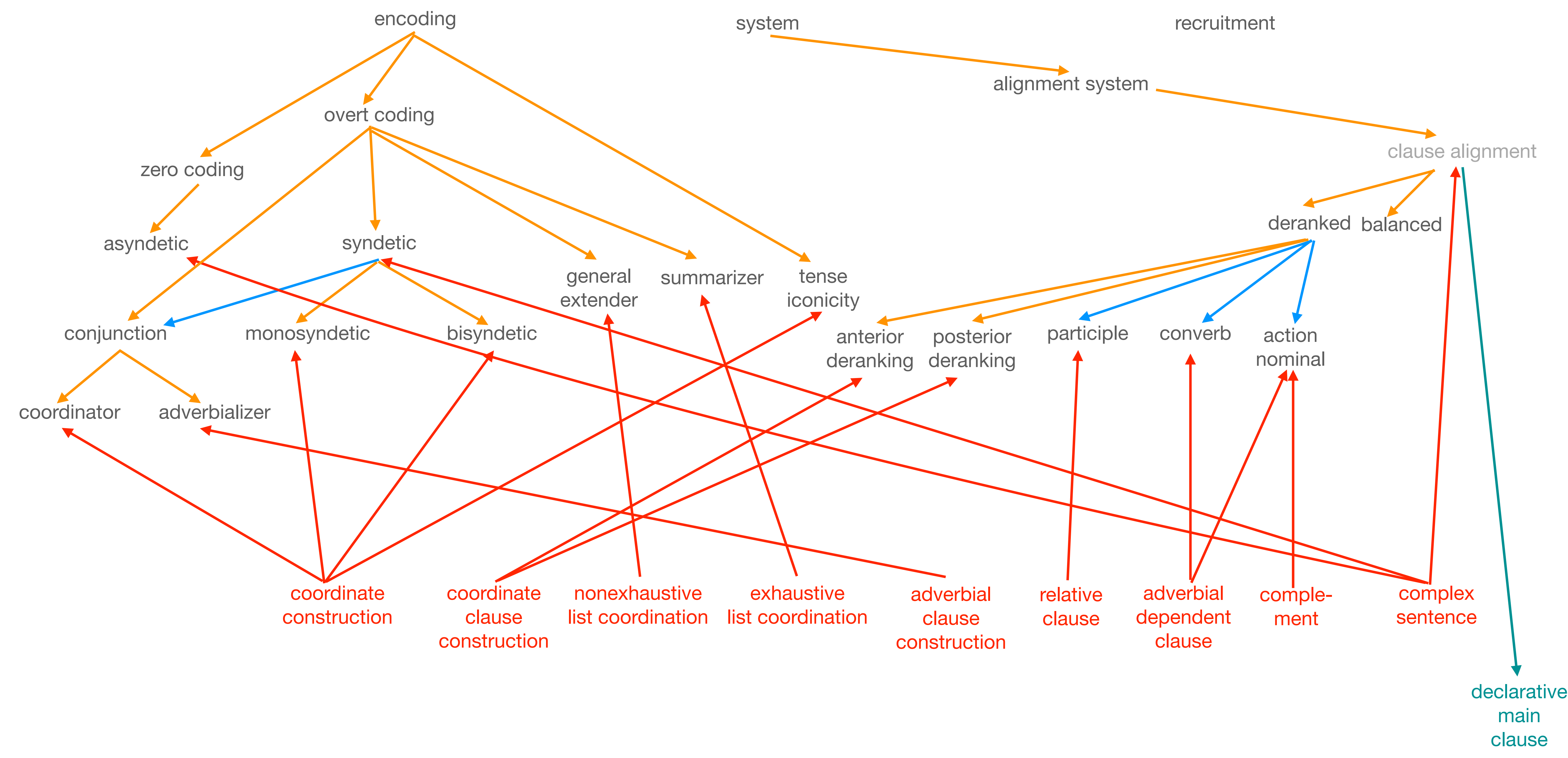
\*Auxiliary construction strategies overlap with serial verb strategies and are included here. The last two strategies are specific to auxiliary verb constructions.



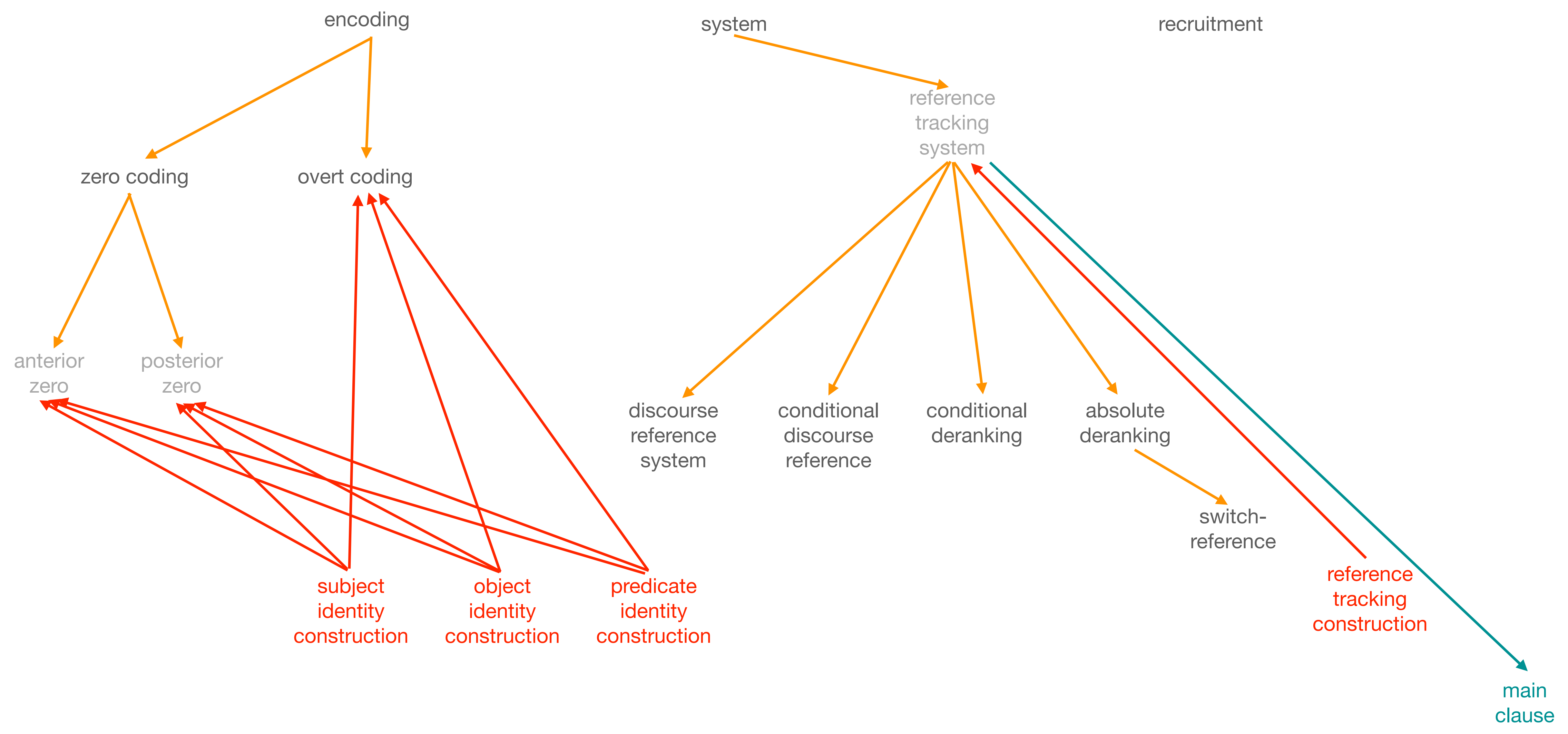


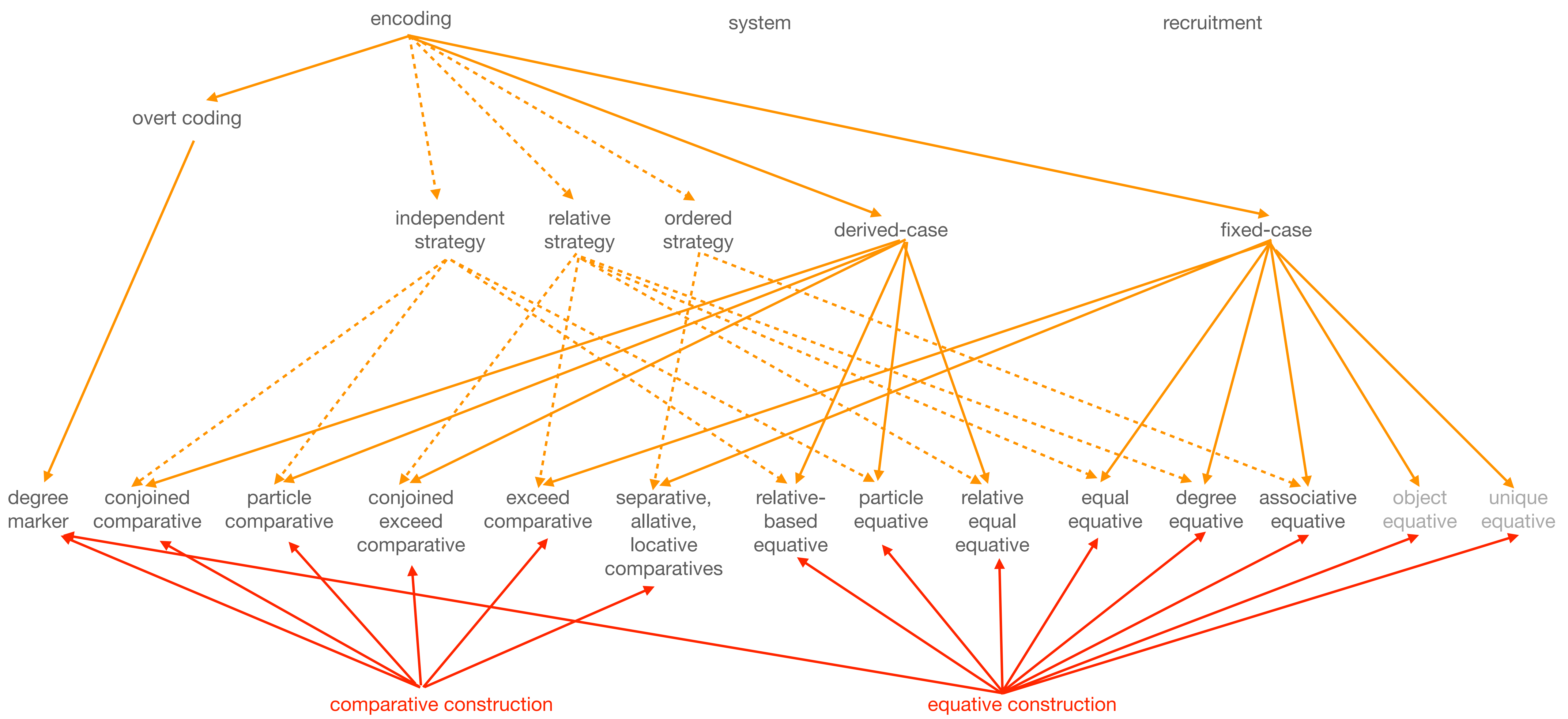
**NB:** These encoding strategies represent combinations of more basic strategies (balanced/deranked, indexed/nonindexed, “nouny”/“verby”, etc.).

Tree 13



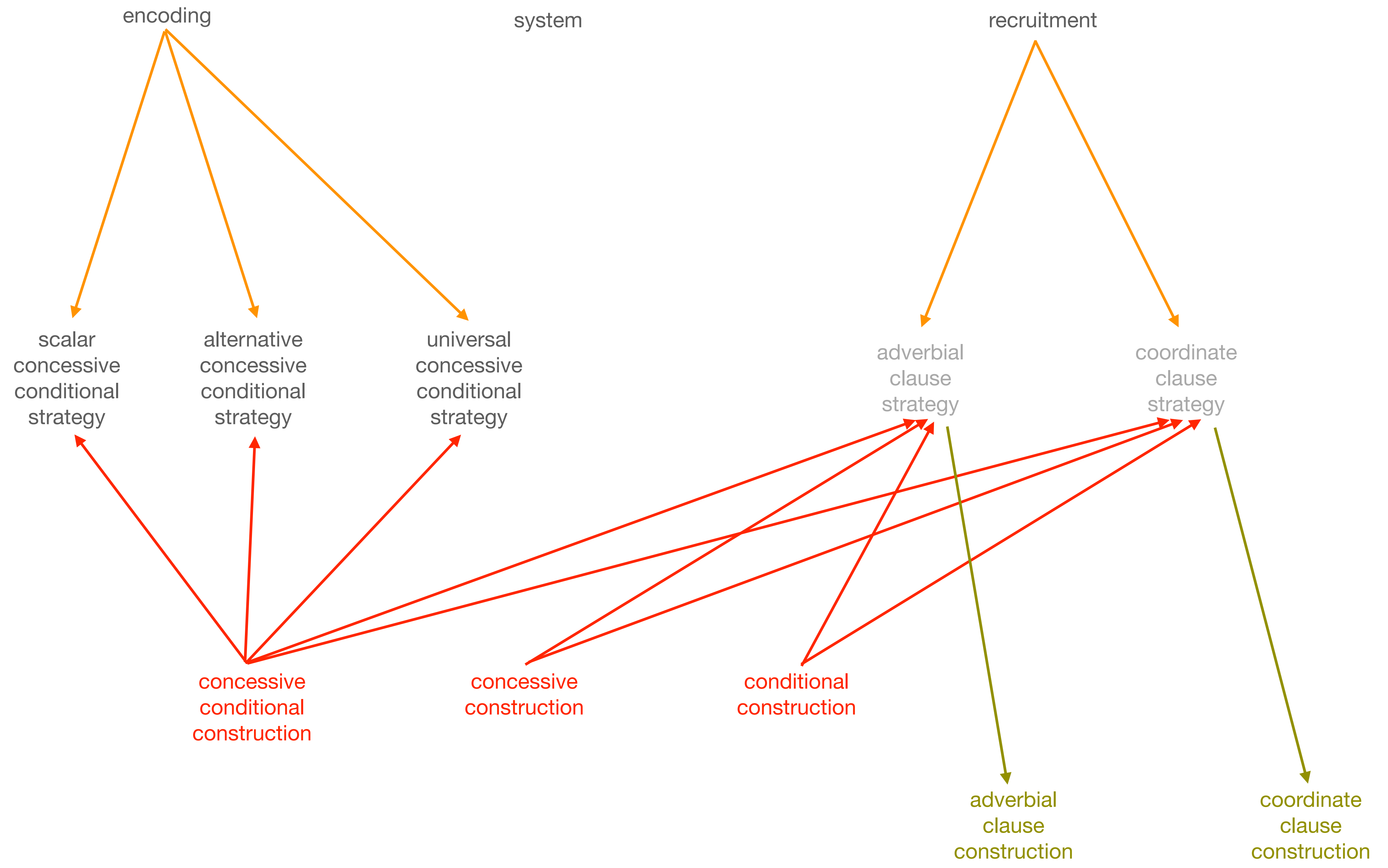
Tree 14





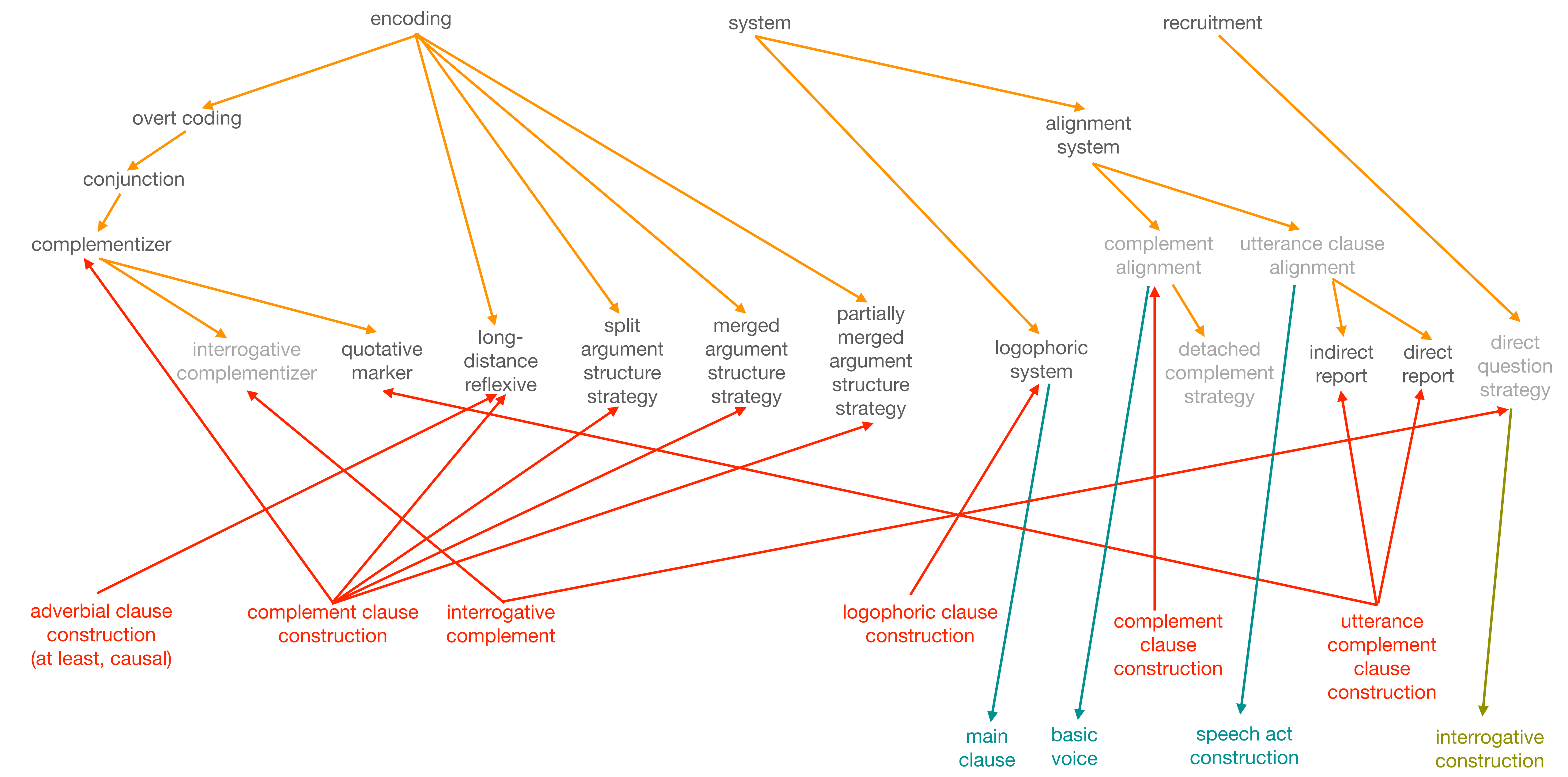
**NB:** Some comparative and equative strategies are parallel or equivalent, although this is not represented here: conjoined  $\approx$  relative-based, particle  $\approx$  particle, conjoined exceed  $\approx$  relative equal, exceed  $\approx$  equal, separative/allative/locative  $\approx$  associative.

Tree 16

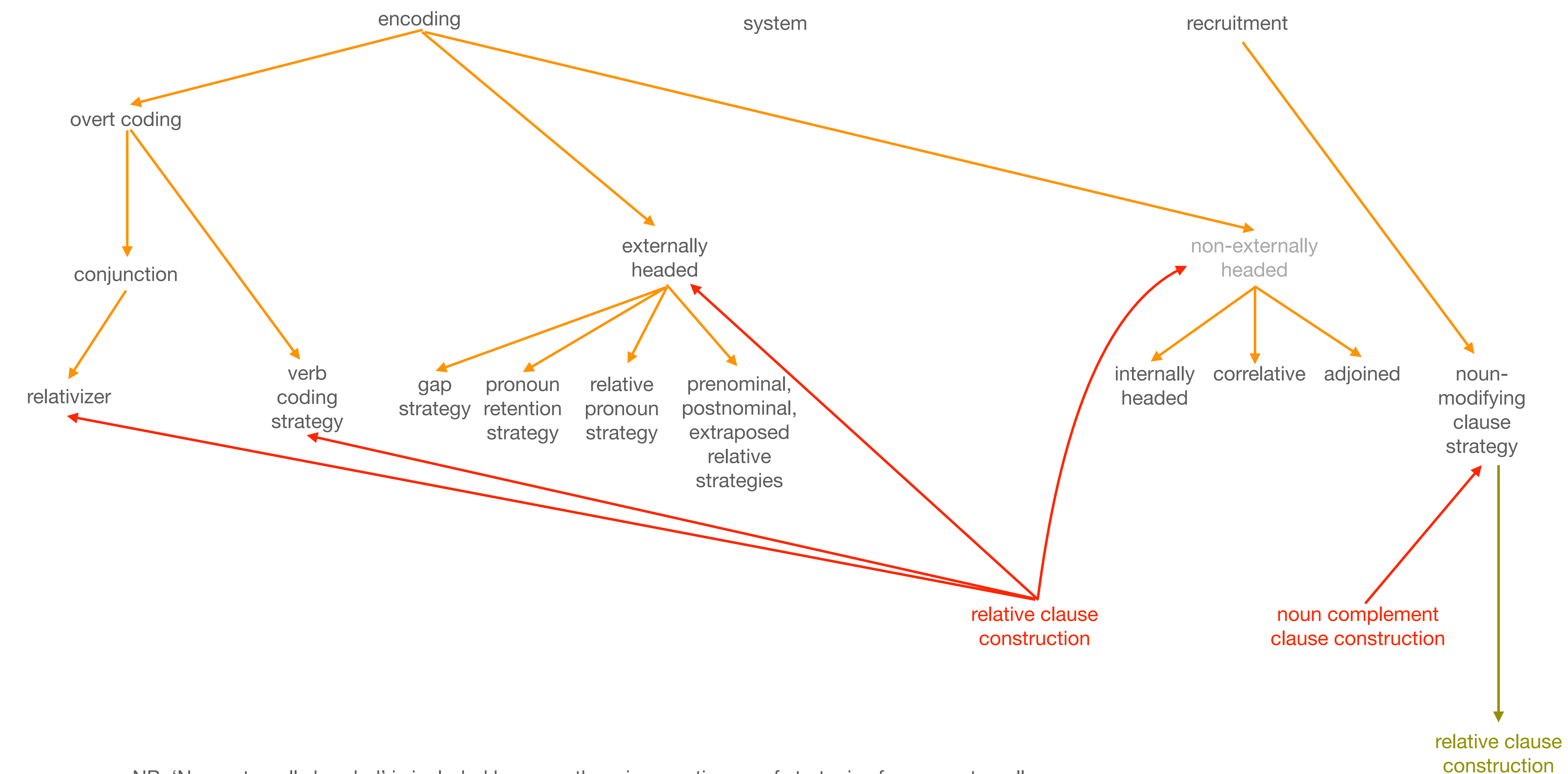




Tree 17







NB: 'Non-externally headed' is included because there is a continuum of strategies for non-externally head relative clauses; the three subtypes in the tree are a subset of possibilities.