

# Knowledge Representation & OWL

Lectures 21-22: Complete Exam Guide

Simplified for Beginners with Practical Examples

February 1, 2026

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction: From Documents to Data</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1	Why Do We Need Semantic Web? . . . . .	3
<b>2</b>	<b>Knowledge Graphs: The Foundation</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1	What is a Knowledge Graph? . . . . .	3
2.2	Example: Building a Knowledge Graph . . . . .	4
2.3	5 Key Characteristics of Knowledge Graphs . . . . .	4
<b>3</b>	<b>Reading Knowledge Graphs: Triples</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1	Converting Graph to Triples . . . . .	5
<b>4</b>	<b>RDF: The Language of Semantic Web</b>	<b>5</b>
4.1	What is RDF? . . . . .	5
4.2	RDF Structure . . . . .	6
4.3	RDF Serialization Formats . . . . .	6
<b>5</b>	<b>RDF Containers: Grouping Data</b>	<b>6</b>
5.1	Why Containers? . . . . .	6
5.2	Example: Beatles Band Members . . . . .	7
<b>6</b>	<b>Blank Nodes: Anonymous Resources</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>RDFS: Adding Structure to RDF</b>	<b>8</b>
7.1	Problem with Pure RDF . . . . .	8
7.2	RDFS = RDF Schema . . . . .	8
7.3	RDFS Classes (Meta-Classes) . . . . .	9
7.4	RDFS Properties (Key Relationships) . . . . .	9
7.5	Domain and Range Explained . . . . .	9
<b>8</b>	<b>RDFS Example: Animal Ontology</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>RDFS Inference: Discovering New Facts</b>	<b>10</b>
9.1	Type 1: Inheritance Inference . . . . .	11
9.2	Type 2: Property Constraint Inference . . . . .	11
<b>10</b>	<b>Popular Vocabularies</b>	<b>12</b>
10.1	Why Use Standard Vocabularies? . . . . .	12
10.2	Common Vocabularies . . . . .	12
<b>11</b>	<b>SKOS: Simple Knowledge Organization System</b>	<b>12</b>
11.1	What is SKOS? . . . . .	12
11.2	SKOS Core Elements . . . . .	13
11.3	SKOS Hierarchy Example . . . . .	13
11.4	SKOS vs RDFS: Key Difference . . . . .	14
<b>12</b>	<b>Limitations of RDFS</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>OWL: Web Ontology Language</b>	<b>14</b>
13.1	What is OWL? . . . . .	14
13.2	Semantic Spectrum . . . . .	15
13.3	Ontology vs Database Schema . . . . .	15

<b>14 OWL Key Components</b>	<b>15</b>
14.1 TBox vs ABox . . . . .	15
14.2 OWL Class Characteristics . . . . .	16
<b>15 OWL Properties</b>	<b>16</b>
15.1 Object Properties vs Data Properties . . . . .	16
15.2 Object Property Characteristics . . . . .	17
<b>16 OWL Reasoning</b>	<b>17</b>
16.1 4 Types of Reasoning . . . . .	18
<b>17 Lab Exercise: Building Ontology in Protégé</b>	<b>18</b>
17.1 What is Protégé? . . . . .	18
17.2 Step-by-Step: Create University Ontology . . . . .	20
17.3 Testing Inconsistency . . . . .	21
<b>18 Exam Preparation Guide</b>	<b>22</b>
18.1 Key Concepts Checklist . . . . .	22
18.2 Common Exam Questions . . . . .	22
18.3 Quick Reference Tables . . . . .	23
18.3.1 RDF/RDFS Comparison . . . . .	23
18.3.2 RDFS vs OWL Comparison . . . . .	24
18.3.3 Property Characteristics Summary . . . . .	24
<b>19 Practice Problems</b>	<b>24</b>
19.1 Problem 1: RDF Triples . . . . .	24
19.2 Problem 2: Domain and Range . . . . .	25
19.3 Problem 3: Property Characteristics . . . . .	25
19.4 Problem 4: Inference . . . . .	25
<b>20 Final Exam Tips</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>21 Summary Flowchart</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>22 Vocabulary Reference</b>	<b>27</b>
22.1 Must-Know Namespaces . . . . .	27
22.2 Most Common RDF/RDFS Terms . . . . .	27
22.3 Most Common OWL Terms . . . . .	27
<b>23 Conclusion</b>	<b>28</b>

# 1 Introduction: From Documents to Data

## The Big Picture

Imagine the internet today: when you search for "Paris", Google finds web pages that **contain the word** "Paris". But what if we want machines to **understand** that Paris is a city, the capital of France, and has a population?

This is the difference between:

- **Web of Documents** (current): Humans read and understand
- **Web of Data** (goal): Machines understand relationships and meaning

## 1.1 Why Do We Need Semantic Web?

### Real-World Scenario

You want to find: "Lecturers who teach Big Data at universities in Edinburgh"

**Old Way (Documents):**

- Search: "lecturer big data Edinburgh"
- Get: Random web pages containing these words
- You must read each page to find the answer

**New Way (Semantic Web):**

- Machine understands: John  $\rightarrow$  is\_a  $\rightarrow$  Lecturer
- John  $\rightarrow$  teaches  $\rightarrow$  Big Data Course
- Big Data Course  $\rightarrow$  taught\_at  $\rightarrow$  Edinburgh
- Direct answer: "John"

# 2 Knowledge Graphs: The Foundation

## 2.1 What is a Knowledge Graph?

### Simple Definition

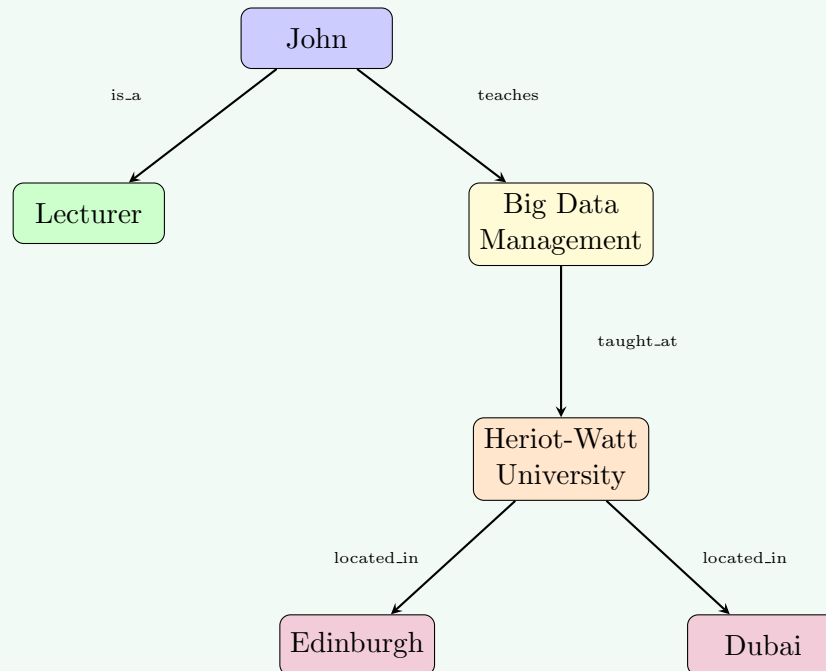
A **knowledge graph** is like a map where:

- **Circles (nodes)** = Things (people, places, courses)
- **Arrows (edges)** = Relationships between things

## 2.2 Example: Building a Knowledge Graph

### Sentence to Graph

**Sentence:** "John is a lecturer who teaches Big Data Management course at Heriot-Watt University taught in Edinburgh and Dubai."



## 2.3 5 Key Characteristics of Knowledge Graphs

Characteristic	Simple Explanation
<b>Scaling</b>	One graph can store many types of knowledge simultaneously (geography, people, jobs, etc.)
<b>Agreement</b>	Everyone must use the same relationship names (standardization)
<b>Structure</b>	We must define which things can be connected by which relationships
<b>Plurality</b>	Same relationship can appear multiple times (e.g., many "is_a" connections)
<b>Asymmetry</b>	Relationships have direction: $A \rightarrow B$ doesn't mean $B \rightarrow A$

Table 1: Knowledge Graph Characteristics - Learn These for Exams!

**Exam Question:** "Explain why knowledge graphs use directed relationships."

**Answer:** Relationships are asymmetric. For example, "John teaches Course" does NOT mean "Course teaches John". Direction matters!

## 3 Reading Knowledge Graphs: Triples

### Triple

Every arrow in a knowledge graph can be written as:

(Subject, Predicate, Object)

- **Subject** = Starting point (who/what)
- **Predicate** = Relationship (action/connection)
- **Object** = Ending point (who/what/value)

### 3.1 Converting Graph to Triples

#### Graph → Triples Conversion

From our previous graph:

1. (John, is\_a, Lecturer)
2. (John, teaches, Big Data Management)
3. (Big Data Management, taught\_at, Heriot-Watt University)
4. (Heriot-Watt University, located\_in, Edinburgh)
5. (Heriot-Watt University, located\_in, Dubai)

**Key Point:** A knowledge graph = Collection of triples

## 4 RDF: The Language of Semantic Web

### 4.1 What is RDF?

#### RDF

RDF is the **standard language** for writing knowledge graphs.  
Think of it like:

- HTML is for web pages
- RDF is for knowledge graphs

## 4.2 RDF Structure

lightgray Part	What It Is	Example
<b>Subject</b>	Resource with IRI	<code>http://example.org/John</code>
<b>Predicate</b>	Property with IRI	<code>http://example.org/teaches</code>
<b>Object</b>	Resource (IRI) OR Literal (value)	IRI: <code>http://example.org/Course1</code> Literal: <code>"John Smith"</code>

Table 2: RDF Triple Components

### Common Mistake

#### IRI vs Literal:

- **IRI** = Identifier for a thing (use when thing can have properties)
- **Literal** = Actual value (string, number, date)

#### Example:

- `(John, hasName, "John Smith")` ← Literal (just text)
- `(John, knows, Bob)` ← IRI (Bob is a person with properties)

## 4.3 RDF Serialization Formats

RDF can be written in different formats (like saving a Word doc as .docx or .pdf):

lightgray Format	Description	File Extension
<b>RDF/XML</b>	Original format (verbose, hard to read)	.rdf, .xml
<b>Turtle</b>	Easy to read for humans ( <b>most common</b> )	.ttl
<b>N-Triples</b>	One triple per line (simple)	.nt
<b>JSON-LD</b>	JSON format (for web developers)	.jsonld

Table 3: RDF Formats - Turtle is most exam-relevant!

## 5 RDF Containers: Grouping Data

### 5.1 Why Containers?

Sometimes you need to group multiple things together. RDF has 3 types of containers:

lightgray Container	Use When	Example
<b>rdf:Bag</b>	Order doesn't matter	Beatles members: John, Paul, George, Ringo (any order)
<b>rdf:Seq</b>	Order matters	Song rankings: 1st, 2nd, 3rd
<b>rdf:Alt</b>	Choose one option	Album formats: CD OR Record OR Tape (pick one)

Table 4: RDF Container Types

## 5.2 Example: Beatles Band Members

### Bag Example (Unordered)

#### Turtle Format:

```
@prefix cd: <http://www.recshop.fake/cd#> .
@prefix rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .

<http://www.recshop.fake/cd/Beatles>
  cd:artist [
    a rdf:Bag ;
    rdf:_1 "John" ;
    rdf:_2 "Paul" ;
    rdf:_3 "George" ;
    rdf:_4 "Ringo"
  ] .
```

#### Explanation:

- `rdf:Bag` = Unordered list
- `rdf:_1`, `rdf:_2`, etc. = Items in the bag
- Order doesn't matter (John could be `_2` and Paul `_1`)

**Exam Question:** "When would you use `rdf:Seq` vs `rdf:Bag`?"

**Answer:** Use **`rdf:Seq`** when order is important (e.g., rankings, steps). Use **`rdf:Bag`** when order doesn't matter (e.g., group members).

## 6 Blank Nodes: Anonymous Resources

### What is a Blank Node?

A **blank node** is a resource without a name (IRI). Use it when:

- The resource doesn't need to be referenced from outside
- You don't want to create an IRI for something temporary

Symbol: Empty circle or `[]` in Turtle



### Blank Node Example

**Scenario:** John knows someone named Paul Smith (email: paul.smith@example.com), but we don't need to reference Paul elsewhere.

**Turtle Format:**

```
@prefix pep: <http://example.com/people#> .

<pep:john>
  pep:knows [
    pep:surname "Smith" ;
    pep:givenName "Paul" ;
    pep:email "paul.smith@example.com"
  ] .
```

**Explanation:**

- [ ... ] = Blank node (no IRI)
- All properties inside describe the blank node
- System generates internal ID automatically

## 7 RDFS: Adding Structure to RDF

### 7.1 Problem with Pure RDF

#### RDF Limitation

In pure RDF, nothing stops you from writing nonsense like:

- (MyCar, lastName, "Honda")
- (MyDog, teaches, "Mathematics")

Cars don't have last names! Dogs don't teach!

### 7.2 RDFS = RDF Schema

#### RDFS Solution

**RDFS** adds **types** and **rules** to RDF:

- Define what **classes** (types of things) exist
- Define what **properties** (relationships) are allowed
- Define which properties work with which classes

Think of it like defining rules for a database before entering data.

### 7.3 RDFS Classes (Meta-Classes)

lightgray RDFS Class	Simple Explanation
<b>rdfs:Class</b>	The "mother of all classes" - defines what a class is
<b>rdfs:Resource</b>	Everything is a resource (most general thing)
<b>rdfs:Literal</b>	Values like numbers, strings, dates
<b>rdfs:Property</b>	Defines what a property is
<b>rdfs:Datatype</b>	Types of data (integer, string, boolean, etc.)

Table 5: RDFS Built-in Classes

### 7.4 RDFS Properties (Key Relationships)

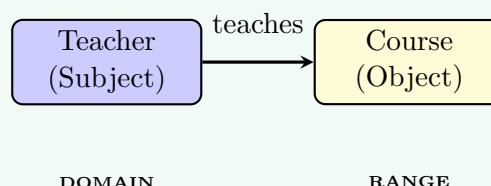
lightgray Property	Meaning	Example
<b>rdfs:subClassOf</b>	A is a type of B	Horse subClassOf Animal
<b>rdfs:subPropertyOf</b>	Property A is a special case of B	hasDaughter subPropertyOf hasChild
<b>rdfs:domain</b>	Which class can use this property (Subject)	teaches domain = Teacher
<b>rdfs:range</b>	What type the property points to (Object)	teaches range = Course

Table 6: RDFS Properties - VERY IMPORTANT FOR EXAMS

### 7.5 Domain and Range Explained

#### Domain & Range

Define: Property "teaches"



#### RDFS Code:

```

:teaches rdf:type rdf:Property ;
        rdfs:domain :Teacher ;
        rdfs:range :Course .
  
```

#### What this means:

- Only Teachers can be subjects of "teaches"
- Only Courses can be objects of "teaches"
- (Student, teaches, Course) would be invalid!

**Common Exam Question:** "What is the domain and range of property X?"  
**Remember:**

- **Domain** = Type of Subject (left side)
- **Range** = Type of Object (right side)

## 8 RDFS Example: Animal Ontology

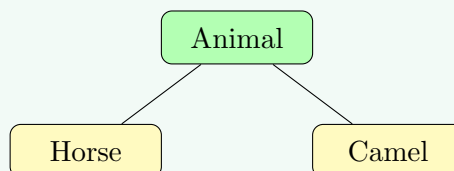
### Complete RDFS Example

**Goal:** Create a simple animal classification

**Step 1: Define Classes (Hierarchy)**

```
@prefix rdfs: <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#> .  
@prefix aml: <http://www.animals.fake/animals#> .  
  
aml:Animal a rdfs:Class .  
  
aml:Horse a rdfs:Class ;  
    rdfs:subClassOf aml:Animal .  
  
aml:Camel a rdfs:Class ;  
    rdfs:subClassOf aml:Animal .
```

**Hierarchy Visualization:**



## 9 RDFS Inference: Discovering New Facts

### What is Inference?

**Inference** = Automatically discovering facts that aren't explicitly stated by applying logical rules.

Think: If A, and  $A \rightarrow B$ , then B

## 9.1 Type 1: Inheritance Inference

### Type Inheritance

#### Given Facts:

1. Alice is a Person
2. Person is subClassOf Agent

#### Inference Rule:

$$\frac{\text{alice } rdfs : type \text{ Person} \quad \text{Person } rdfs : subClassOf \text{ Agent}}{\text{alice } rdfs : type \text{ Agent}}$$

**Conclusion:** Alice is an Agent (even though not explicitly stated)

## 9.2 Type 2: Property Constraint Inference

### Domain/Range Inference

#### Given Facts:

1. Property "knows" has domain Person
2. Alice knows Bob

#### Inference Rule:

$$\frac{\text{knows } rdfs : domain \text{ Person} \quad \text{Alice knows Bob}}{\text{Alice } rdfs : type \text{ Person} \quad \text{Bob } rdfs : type \text{ Person}}$$

**Conclusion:** Both Alice and Bob are Persons (inferred from relationship)

**Exam Question:** "Given the following triples, what can be inferred?"

#### Strategy:

1. Look for subClassOf chains → apply transitivity
2. Look for property constraints (domain/range) → infer types
3. Look for subPropertyOf → generalize relationships

## 10 Popular Vocabularies

### 10.1 Why Use Standard Vocabularies?

#### Don't Reinvent the Wheel

Instead of creating your own terms, use established vocabularies:

- **Interoperability:** Others understand your data
- **Tools:** Software already supports them
- **Best Practices:** Already well-designed

### 10.2 Common Vocabularies

lightgray Vocabulary	Purpose	Example Terms
<b>Dublin Core</b>	Document metadata	dc:title, dc:creator, dc:date
<b>FOAF</b>	People & social networks	foaf:Person, foaf:knows, foaf:name
<b>SKOS</b>	Taxonomies & thesauri	skos:Concept, skos:broader, skos:narrower
<b>Schema.org</b>	General web content	schema:Product, schema:price, schema:rating

Table 7: Standard Vocabularies - Use These in Projects!

## 11 SKOS: Simple Knowledge Organization System

### 11.1 What is SKOS?

#### SKOS in Simple Terms

SKOS is for creating **structured vocabularies**:

- **Taxonomy:** Hierarchical classification (e.g., Animal → Mammal → Cat)
- **Thesaurus:** Related terms and synonyms
- **Controlled Vocabulary:** Standard terms for a domain

## 11.2 SKOS Core Elements

lightgray SKOS Term	Meaning	Example
<b>skos:Concept</b>	A unit of thought/idea	"Cat", "Mammal", "Animal"
<b>skos:prefLabel</b>	Preferred name	"Cat"@en
<b>skos:altLabel</b>	Alternative name (synonym)	"Feline"@en
<b>skos:broader</b>	More general concept	Cat broader Mammal
<b>skos:narrower</b>	More specific concept	Mammal narrower Cat
<b>skos:related</b>	Associated concept	Cat related Dog

Table 8: SKOS Key Properties

## 11.3 SKOS Hierarchy Example

### Animal Taxonomy with SKOS

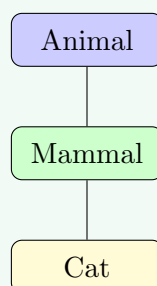
```
@prefix skos: <http://www.w3.org/2004/02/skos/core#> .

:Animal rdf:type skos:Concept ;
        skos:prefLabel "Animal"@en .

:Mammal rdf:type skos:Concept ;
        skos:prefLabel "Mammal"@en ;
        skos:broader :Animal .

:Cat rdf:type skos:Concept ;
     skos:prefLabel "Cat"@en ;
     skos:altLabel "Feline"@en ;
     skos:broader :Mammal ;
     skos:related :Dog .
```

Hierarchy:



## 11.4 SKOS vs RDFS: Key Difference

### Common Confusion

**DON'T mix these up:**

lightgray Aspect	RDFS	SKOS
Purpose	Define class structure	Organize concepts
Relationship	rdfs:subClassOf	skos:broader
Use for	Ontology structure	Controlled vocabularies
Example	Country subClassOf Location	UK broader Europe

**Wrong:** UK rdfs:subClassOf Europe

**Right:** UK skos:broader Europe

## 12 Limitations of RDFS

### Why RDFS is Not Enough

RDFS cannot express:

1. **Cardinality:** "A person has exactly 2 parents"
2. **Property characteristics:** "touches is symmetric"
3. **Conditional constraints:** "hasChild range is Person ONLY when subject is Person"
4. **Complex reasoning:** Disjoint classes, equivalence, etc.

**Solution:** We need OWL!

## 13 OWL: Web Ontology Language

### 13.1 What is OWL?

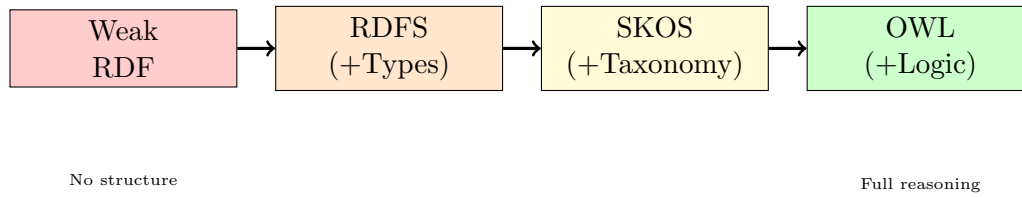
#### OWL Definition

OWL (Web Ontology Language) extends RDFS with:

- Rich expressiveness (say complex things)
- Formal logic (precise meaning)
- Automated reasoning (discover new facts)
- Complex constraints (strict rules)

Think: RDFS = Basic rules, OWL = Advanced rules + Logic

## 13.2 Semantic Spectrum



## 13.3 Ontology vs Database Schema

lightgray Aspect	Database Schema	Ontology (OWL)
Purpose	Organize data storage	Share knowledge with semantics
Semantics	In code or human mind	Formally defined in ontology
Relationships	Implicit (foreign keys)	Explicit (named properties)
Reasoning	No automatic reasoning	Automatic inference
Flexibility	Fixed structure	Open world (extensible)

Table 9: Ontology vs Database - Important Distinction!

## 14 OWL Key Components

### 14.1 TBox vs ABox

#### Two Parts of Knowledge

- **TBox (Terminology Box):** The rules/structure (Classes, Properties, Constraints)
- **ABox (Assertion Box):** The actual data (Individuals/Instances)

#### Analogy:

- TBox = Recipe (what ingredients, steps)
- ABox = Actual cake you made (the data)

#### TBox vs ABox

##### TBox (Structure):

- Class: Person
- Class: Course
- Property: teaches (Teacher  $\rightarrow$  Course)

##### ABox (Data):

- John is a Person
- F21BD is a Course
- John teaches F21BD



## 14.2 OWL Class Characteristics

Characteristic	Meaning	Example
<b>owl:equivalentClass</b>	Two classes refer to same things	Human Person
<b>owl:disjointWith</b>	No overlap (can't be both)	Man Woman
<b>rdfs:subClassOf</b>	A is type of B	Dog Animal

Table 10: OWL Class Relationships

### Disjoint Classes

**Important:** If classes are disjoint, an individual CANNOT be instance of both.

**Example:**

- Man disjointWith Woman
- Alice type Woman
- Alice type Man ← **INCONSISTENT!**

## 15 OWL Properties

### 15.1 Object Properties vs Data Properties

Property Type	Connects	Example
<b>Object Property</b>	Individual → Individual	John teaches Course1
<b>Data Property</b>	Individual → Literal (value)	John hasAge 35

Table 11: Property Types

## 15.2 Object Property Characteristics

Characteristic	Meaning	Example
<b>Functional</b>	Each subject has at most 1 object	hasBirthDate (only one birthday)
<b>InverseFunctional</b>	Each object has at most 1 subject	hasSSN (unique ID)
<b>Transitive</b>	If $A \rightarrow B$ and $B \rightarrow C$ , then $A \rightarrow C$	ancestor (if A ancestor B, B ancestor C, then A ancestor C)
<b>Symmetric</b>	If $A \rightarrow B$ , then $B \rightarrow A$	sibling (if A sibling B, then B sibling A)
<b>Asymmetric</b>	If $A \rightarrow B$ , then NOT $B \rightarrow A$	parentOf (if A parent B, B cannot be parent of A)
<b>Reflexive</b>	Everything related to itself	knows (person knows themselves)
<b>Irreflexive</b>	Nothing related to itself	parentOf (can't be your own parent)

Table 12: Property Characteristics - MEMORIZE FOR EXAMS

### Inverse Properties

#### Definition:

```
:hasWife owl:inverseOf :hasHusband .
```

#### Given:

```
:John :hasWife :Mary .
```

#### Reasoner infers:

```
:Mary :hasHusband :John .
```

**Key Point:** You only state one direction; reasoner discovers the other!

## 16 OWL Reasoning

### What is Reasoning?

**Reasoning** = Automatic discovery of facts using logic rules.

A **reasoner** is software that:

1. Checks consistency (no contradictions)
2. Infers class membership (classification)
3. Discovers new relationships (realization)

## 16.1 4 Types of Reasoning

Reasoning Type	Question	Example
<b>Consistency</b>	Is ontology contradiction-free?	Check: Can Alice be both Man and Woman (if disjoint)?
<b>Satisfiability</b>	Can a class have instances?	Can class "MarriedBachelor" have individuals?
<b>Classification</b>	What is class hierarchy?	Build full subClassOf tree
<b>Realization</b>	What class does individual belong to?	John teaches Course → John is Teacher

Table 13: OWL Reasoning Tasks

### Reasoning Example

#### Ontology (TBox):

- Property "studies" domain: Student, range: Course
- Property "hasStudent" inverseOf "studies"

#### Data (ABox):

- Alice studies F21BD

#### Reasoner Infers:

1. Alice type Student (from domain constraint)
2. F21BD type Course (from range constraint)
3. F21BD hasStudent Alice (from inverse property)

## 17 Lab Exercise: Building Ontology in Protégé

### 17.1 What is Protégé?

#### Protégé Tool

**Protégé** is a free, open-source ontology editor:

- Graphical interface (no coding needed)
- Built-in reasoners (HermiT, Pellet)
- Exports to OWL formats (Turtle, RDF/XML)

Download: <https://protege.stanford.edu>



## 17.2 Step-by-Step: Create University Ontology

### Lab Exercise Walkthrough

#### Step 1: Set Up Ontology

1. Open Protégé
2. File → New
3. Set IRI: `http://example.org/university`
4. Add metadata:
  - `dcterms:title` = "University Ontology"
  - `dcterms:creator` = "Your Name"
  - `dcterms:description` = "Ontology for university domain"
5. Save as Turtle format (.ttl)

#### Step 2: Create Class Hierarchy

1. Entities tab → Classes
2. Select `owl:Thing`
3. Click "Add subclass" button
4. Create: **Person**, **Course**
5. Make them **disjoint**:
  - Select **Person**
  - Disjoint With → Add → **Course**
6. Under **Person**, create:
  - **Staff** (subclass of **Person**)
    - **Academic** (subclass of **Staff**)
    - **Administrative** (subclass of **Staff**)
  - **Student** (subclass of **Person**)
    - **Undergraduate** (subclass of **Student**)
    - **Postgraduate** (subclass of **Student**)

#### Step 3: Create Object Properties

1. Entities tab → Object Properties
2. Create properties:
  - **teaches** (**Academic** → **Course**)
  - **taughtBy** (**Course** → **Academic**) [inverse of **teaches**]
  - **studies** (**Student** → **Course**)
  - **hasStudent** (**Course** → **Student**) [inverse of **studies**]
3. Set characteristics:
  - Select **studies**

## 17.3 Testing Inconsistency

### Deliberate Error

#### Create Inconsistency:

1. Select alice
2. Add type: Course
3. Synchronize reasoner
4. **ERROR**: "Inconsistent ontology"

#### Why?

- Person disjoint with Course
- Alice is Person (from Student subClassOf Person)
- Alice is Course (you just added)
- Contradiction!

**Fix:** Remove "alice type Course"

## 18 Exam Preparation Guide

### 18.1 Key Concepts Checklist

#### Master These Topics:

- ☐ Knowledge graphs: nodes, edges, triples
- ☐ RDF: Subject-Predicate-Object structure
- ☐ RDF serialization: Turtle format (most important)
- ☐ RDF containers: Bag, Seq, Alt
- ☐ Blank nodes: when and why to use
- ☐ RDFS: Classes, Properties, domain, range
- ☐ RDFS: subClassOf, subPropertyOf
- ☐ RDFS inference: type inheritance, constraint inference
- ☐ SKOS: Concept, broader, narrower, related
- ☐ SKOS vs RDFS: when to use each
- ☐ OWL: equivalentClass, disjointWith
- ☐ OWL properties: characteristics (functional, symmetric, etc.)
- ☐ OWL reasoning: consistency, classification, realization
- ☐ Protégé: creating classes, properties, individuals

### 18.2 Common Exam Questions

#### Question Type 1: Convert Sentence to Triples

**Example:** "Alice, a student, studies Math course taught by Professor John at MIT."

**Answer:**

1. (Alice, rdf:type, Student)
2. (Alice, studies, Math)
3. (Math, rdf:type, Course)
4. (Math, taughtBy, John)
5. (John, rdf:type, Professor)
6. (Math, taughtAt, MIT)

**Question Type 2: Domain/Range Identification****Given:** Property "writes" connects Authors to Books**Questions:**

1. What is domain of "writes"? → Author
2. What is range of "writes"? → Book

**Question Type 3: Inference****Given:**

- Cat subClassOf Mammal
- Mammal subClassOf Animal
- Fluffy type Cat

**What can be inferred?**

- Fluffy type Mammal (from subClassOf transitivity)
- Fluffy type Animal (from subClassOf transitivity)

**Question Type 4: Property Characteristics****Classify these properties:**

1. "siblingOf" → **Symmetric** (if A sibling B, then B sibling A)
2. "ancestorOf" → **Transitive** (if A ancestor B, B ancestor C, then A ancestor C)
3. "hasMotherparentOf" → **Functional** (each person has exactly 1 mother)
4. "parentOf" → **Asymmetric** (if A parent B, then NOT B parent A)

## 18.3 Quick Reference Tables

### 18.3.1 RDF/RDFS Comparison

lightgray <b>Feature</b>	<b>RDF</b>	<b>RDFS</b>
Purpose	Represent data	Define vocabulary
Structure	Triples only	Classes + Properties
Constraints	None	Domain, Range
Hierarchy	No	Yes (subClassOf)
Reasoning	Minimal	Type inference

Table 14: RDF vs RDFS Quick Comparison



### 18.3.2 RDFS vs OWL Comparison

lightgray <b>Feature</b>	<b>RDFS</b>	<b>OWL</b>
Expressiveness	Basic	Rich
Disjoint classes	No	Yes
Cardinality	No	Yes
Property characteristics	No	Yes (symmetric, etc.)
Reasoning power	Limited	Advanced
Complexity	Simple	Complex

Table 15: RDFS vs OWL Quick Comparison

### 18.3.3 Property Characteristics Summary

lightgray <b>Characteristic</b>	<b>Quick Test</b>
Functional	Each subject $\rightarrow$ at most 1 object
InverseFunctional	Each object $\leftarrow$ at most 1 subject
Transitive	$A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C \implies A \rightarrow C$
Symmetric	$A \rightarrow B \implies B \rightarrow A$
Asymmetric	$A \rightarrow B \implies \text{NOT } B \rightarrow A$
Reflexive	Every $A \rightarrow A$
Irreflexive	Never $A \rightarrow A$

Table 16: Property Characteristics Cheat Sheet

## 19 Practice Problems

### 19.1 Problem 1: RDF Triples

**Problem:** Convert this information to RDF triples:

”Emma is a PhD student studying at Heriot-Watt University. She is supervised by Dr. Smith.”

**Solution:**

1. `(:Emma, rdf:type, :PhDStudent)`
2. `(:PhDStudent, rdfs:subClassOf, :Student)`
3. `(:Emma, :studiesAt, :HeriotWattUniversity)`
4. `(:Emma, :supervisedBy, :DrSmith)`
5. `(:DrSmith, rdf:type, :Professor)`

## 19.2 Problem 2: Domain and Range

**Problem:** Define domain and range for property "manages"

Constraint: Only Managers can manage, and they manage Departments.

**Solution:**

```
:manages rdf:type owl:ObjectProperty ;  
        rdfs:domain :Manager ;  
        rdfs:range :Department .
```

## 19.3 Problem 3: Property Characteristics

**Problem:** What characteristics apply to these properties?

1. "marriedTo"
2. "brotherOf"
3. "locatedIn" (for geography)

**Solution:**

1. "marriedTo": **Symmetric** (if A married B, then B married A)
2. "brotherOf": **Irreflexive** (can't be your own brother), **NOT symmetric** (brother of sister)
3. "locatedIn": **Transitive** (if Edinburgh in Scotland, Scotland in UK, then Edinburgh in UK)

## 19.4 Problem 4: Inference

**Problem:** Given:

- Property "studies" domain: Student, range: Course
- hasStudent inverseOf studies
- Tom studies CS101

What can be inferred?

**Solution:**

1. Tom rdf:type Student (from domain of "studies")
2. CS101 rdf:type Course (from range of "studies")
3. CS101 hasStudent Tom (from inverse property)

## 20 Final Exam Tips

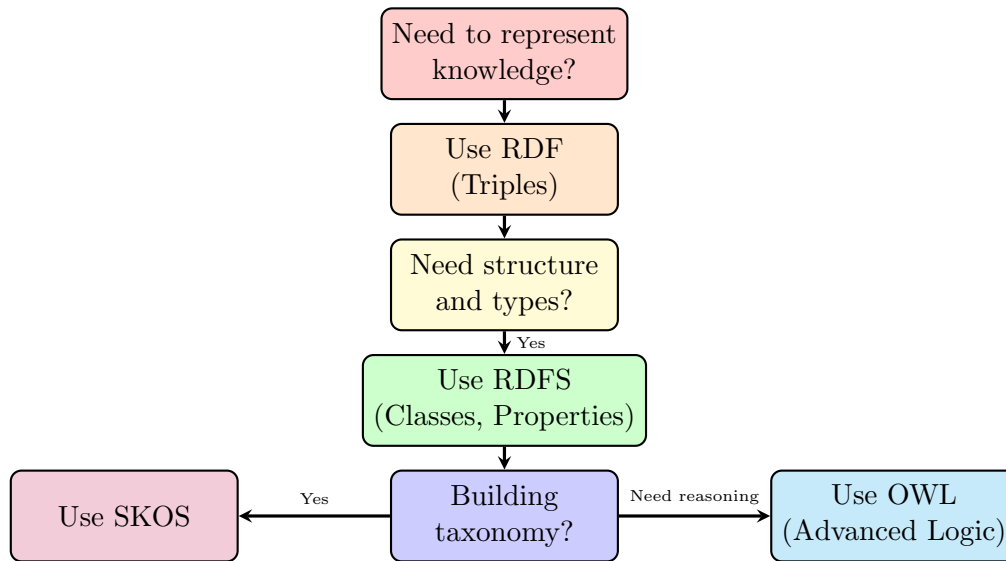
### Strategy for Exam Success:

1. **Know the hierarchy:**  $\text{RDF} \rightarrow \text{RDFS} \rightarrow \text{SKOS/OWL}$
2. **Master Turtle syntax:** Most practical exam questions use Turtle
3. **Understand inference:** Given facts, what can be concluded?
4. **Memorize property characteristics:** Symmetric, Transitive, etc.
5. **Practice domain/range:** Very common exam question
6. **Know when to use what:**
  - RDF: Just store data
  - RDFS: Add types and basic constraints
  - SKOS: Build taxonomy/thesaurus
  - OWL: Need advanced reasoning
7. **Protégé workflow:** Classes  $\rightarrow$  Properties  $\rightarrow$  Individuals  $\rightarrow$  Reasoner

### Common Mistakes to Avoid

- Don't confuse `rdfs:subClassOf` with `rdf:type`
- Don't mix SKOS and RDFS relationships
- Don't forget to run reasoner after changes
- Don't use literals where resources should be used
- Don't forget disjoint classes can't overlap

## 21 Summary Flowchart



## 22 Vocabulary Reference

### 22.1 Must-Know Namespaces

```

@prefix rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .
@prefix rdfs: <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#> .
@prefix owl: <http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#> .
@prefix xsd: <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#> .
@prefix skos: <http://www.w3.org/2004/02/skos/core#> .
@prefix dcterms: <http://purl.org/dc/terms/> .
@prefix foaf: <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/> .
  
```

### 22.2 Most Common RDF/RDFS Terms

- rdf:type
- rdf:Property
- rdf:Bag
- rdf:Seq
- rdf:Alt
- rdfs:Class
- rdfs:Resource
- rdfs:Literal
- rdfs:subClassOf
- rdfs:subPropertyOf
- rdfs:domain
- rdfs:range
- rdfs:label
- rdfs:comment

### 22.3 Most Common OWL Terms

- owl:Class
- owl:Thing
- owl:ObjectProperty
- owl:DatatypeProperty

- owl:equivalentClass
- owl:disjointWith
- owl:inverseOf
- owl:FunctionalProperty
- owl:TransitiveProperty
- owl:SymmetricProperty
- owl:AsymmetricProperty
- owl:ReflexiveProperty
- owl:IrreflexiveProperty

## 23 Conclusion

### Key Takeaways

1. **Knowledge graphs** represent data as interconnected nodes and relationships
2. **RDF** provides standard way to encode knowledge graphs as triples
3. **RDFS** adds structure with classes, properties, and basic constraints
4. **SKOS** specialized for building taxonomies and controlled vocabularies
5. **OWL** provides rich expressiveness and automated reasoning
6. **Protégé** is practical tool for building and testing ontologies
7. **Reasoning** automatically discovers facts from rules and data

**Good luck on your exam!**

Remember: Practice with Protégé and work through examples.