RST Cheatsheet

Subject matter relations (informational)

Subject matter relative			
attribution	S is source of information in N	[we need to go now!] <- [Kim said]	mostly speech/thought verb
cause	S causes N	[I'm full] <- [because I already ate]	the cause is less central
circumstance	S gives circumstances (time, place) of N	[He got rich] <- [after the recession happened]	'while', 'when', date-line
condition	S is a condition for N to happened	[If you rent a car] -> [you can drive there]	can be marked by 'when'
elabadditional	S provides more info about N	[The hall was full] <- [100 guests were there]	
elabattribute	S provides more info about phrase in N	[The hall] <-[built in 2010] [was]	relative clauses, acl, N+inf
evaluation	S gives opinion about N (R needn't agree)	[Madonna has a new song] <- [I like it]	evals., 'it's likely', 'good'
manner	S gives manner: how N happened	[It was shipped] <- [according to EU norms]	based on, as VERBed, -ing
means	S indicates means by which N happened	[I opened the door] <- [by kicking it with my boot]	by + -ing, using + NN
purpose	N occurs in order for S to happen	[I bought it] <- [so that I have a present too]	in order to, to infinitive
restatement-partial	S reiterates part of N (else use multinuc)	[It's big and heavy.] <- [Really huge.]	multinuc if both equal
result	S is result of N (inverse of cause)	[a bomb destroyed the house] <- [12 were injured]	when cause more central
solutionhood	N is answer to a problem in S	[Why?] -> [I hated it]; [it's broken]->[so use a spare]	use for Q+A pairs
Presentational relation	ons (influence R)		
antithesis	R finds N more credible than S	[They're unemployed,] <- [they're not lazy!]	also: 'rather than V-ing'
background	R needs to know S to understand N	[He was offended] <- [in his culture that's an insult]	also figures/captions
concession	W admits S, but still claims N	<pre>[It's perfect] <- [even though it's scratched]</pre>	although, admittedly
evidence	S gives evidence that N is true	[Madonna's song is great] <- [it's in the top 10]	
justify	Justifies why W can say this	[Madonna's song is great] <- [the music is amazing]	
motivation	Motivates R to do something	[Madonna's song is great] -> [you should buy it]	
prepsetup	S prepares R for N	[I'll tell you why:] -> [It hasn't changed since 1990]	often (can) end in ':'
preporganization	S is graphically arranged to prepare for N	[Introduction] -> [No code is unbreakable.]	most headings
prepphatic	S holds the floor for N, no semantic value	[Um, I mean,] -> [so did they buy one?]	most dysfluencies
question	S requests the information in N	[Why did you do it?] -> [I needed the money!]	
Multinuclear relation	ıs		

same-unit

question	S requests the information in N	[Why did you do it?] -> [I needed the money!]	
Multinuclear relation	ns		
contrast	W presents similar units with contrast	[It makes things cheaper] [but it's harder to do]	A but B
disjunction	W presents a set of alternatives	[You can go by air] [or you can go by sea]	A or B
list	W presents coordinate, like units	[Last year all summer I read books] [and surfed]	A and B, bullets
restaterepetition	W presents equivalent/redundant units	[It's unbeatable.][You just can't beat it.]	
sequence	W presents chronological sequence	[Jack joined in 1990.] [Then I joined in 1991.]	'then', consecutive actions
joint	W presents unlike units with no other rel.	[The cliffs are worth seeing.][The beach is a sight too.]	progress in dialog, sections

[Kim,] who ..., [was also there]

(Technical device for interrupted EDUs)

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