% David Ly, lydavid1, 1001435501

I started off by entering all the words from the four given sentences into the lexicon once. I gave the two nouns “student” and “teacher” nsem equal to themselves. I initially gave each of the verbs vsem equal to themselves. Later I went on to revise that as I added features to the v\_sem type. The first feature I added to the verbs was tense, using the possible tenses from the given type of the same name. This way I was able to differentiate between the present tense “sleep” and all the other past tense verbs. For the scope of this assignment, I decided to only allow for past tense verbs to be the start of a verb phrase, meaning all sentences must be constructed with one of the four verbs “preferred”, “persuaded”, “promised”, or “expected”.

The next thing I did was introduce a role type hierarchy with subtypes agent, theme and beneficiary and each of those had a subtype of specific semantics pertaining to a certain verb such as persuader for the verb persuade. Then I introduced features for the verbs, allowing them to take on these roles as their subject, object and reference. For example, the subject of promise of is *“promiser”* (the one who promises)*,* the object is “*promisee*” (the one who receives a promise) and the reference is “*promiser*”. The reference in this scenario means the subject or object of the verb that will become the object of a verb later down the road (such as sleep). This specification allowed me to easily restrict my grammar rules where I can simply unify a kind of object such as theme or beneficiary or even a very specific object such as “*expectee*” (the one who receives an expectation).

One limitation of my grammar was its inability to accept certain simple grammatically correct sentences such as “the student promised” and “the student promised the teacher” as I intentionally didn’t handle it because it did not seem to be within the scope of the assignment that stated “promise” assigns three thematic roles. In these two cases, “promise” only assigned one and two thematic roles, so I was led to believe these would be different usage of the word “promise”.

Another limitation was my grammar did not accept present tense conjugations of the four verbs, mainly to avoid allowing “sleep” to be incorrectly used in place of those verbs.