

Philosophy 57 — Day 11

- Quiz #3 today (Chapter 4)
 - Sections 4.5–4.6 *skipped* (no Aristotelian stuff)
 - Venn Diagrams, structure, and meaning of categorical claims
 - No translation stuff
 - Slightly longer than usual
- Back to Chapter 4 — Categorical Statements
 - Translation from English into CL (last topic of chapter 4)



Chapter 4: Categorical Statements — Translation from English Overview

- Many English claims can be translated faithfully into one of the four standard form categorical claims. There are 10 things to look out for.
 - * Terms Without Nouns
 - * Nonstandard Verbs
 - * Singular Propositions
 - * Adverbs and Pronouns
 - * Unexpressed Quantifiers
 - * Nonstandard Quantifiers
 - * Conditional Statements
 - * Exclusive Propositions
 - * “The Only”
 - * Exceptive Pronouns
- You do not need to remember the names of these 10 watchwords, but you’ll need to know how to translate English sentences which involve them.



Chapter 4: Categorical Statements — Translation from English I & II (Review)

- **Terms Without Nouns:** The subject and predicate terms of a categorical proposition must contain either a plural noun or a pronoun that serves to denote the class indicated by the term.
 - “Some roses are red” becomes “Some roses are red flowers”. That is, “Some S are P ”, where S = roses and P = red flowers.
 - “All tigers are carnivorous” becomes “All S are P ”, where S = _____ and P = _____.
- **Nonstandard Verbs:** The only copulas that are allowed in standard form are “are” and “are not.” Statements in English often use other forms of the verb “to be.” These need to be translated into standard form.
 - “Some college students will become educated” becomes “Some S are P ”, where S = _____ and P = _____.
 - “Some birds fly south for the winter” becomes “Some S are P ”, where S = _____ and P = _____.



Chapter 4: Categorical Statements — Translation from English III

- **Singular Propositions:** A singular proposition is one that makes an assertion about a specific person, place, thing, or time. We translate singular propositions into *universal* categorical claims using **parameters**.
- Examples:
 - “George went home” becomes “All **persons identical to George** are persons who went home.” (I’ll write the *parameters* in boldface)
 - “Sandra did not go shopping” becomes _____? (hint: universal, negative).
 - * NOTE: Interpreting singular claims as universal categorical statements loses some of the meaning of such expressions. Why?
 - “There is a radio in the back bedroom” becomes _____? (hint: particular, affirmative).
 - “The moon is full tonight” becomes _____?
 - “I hate gin” becomes _____?



- NOTE: We do *not* use parameters in cases where they would be redundant. For instance, consider the English sentence “Diamonds are carbon allotropes”.
 - Correct: All diamonds are carbon allotropes.
 - Incorrect: All things identical to diamonds are things identical to carbon allotropes.
- More Examples:
 - * “Joseph J. Johnson discovered the electron”
 - * “There is a giant star in the Tarantula Nebula”
 - * “Cynthia travels where she wants”



Chapter 4: Categorical Statements — Translation from English IV

- **Adverbs and Pronouns:** When a statement contains a spatial adverb like “where”, “wherever”, “anywhere”, “everywhere” or “nowhere” – it may be translated in terms of “places”. Examples:
 - “Nowhere on earth are there any unicorns” becomes “No places on earth are places there are unicorns.”
 - “She goes wherever she chooses” becomes _____?
- Temporal adverbs like “when”, “whenever”, “anytime”, “always” or “never” are translated in terms of “times”. Examples:
 - “She never brings her lunch to school” becomes “No times she goes to school are times she brings her lunch”
 - “He is always clean shaven” becomes _____?
- Pronouns such as “who”, “whoever”, “anyone”, “what”, “whatever” or “anything” get translated in terms of “persons” or “things”. Examples



- “Whoever works hard will succeed” becomes “All persons who work hard are persons who will succeed”
- “She does whatever she wants” becomes _____?
- More Examples:
 - “He glitters when he walks”
 - “He always wears a suit to work”



Chapter 4: Categorical Statements — Translation from English V

- **Unexpressed Quantifiers:** Many statements in English have quantifiers that are implied but not expressed explicitly. When we add quantifiers, we need to get as close to the original meaning as possible:
 - “Children live next door” becomes “Some children are persons who live next door”
 - “A tiger roared” becomes “Some tigers are animals that roared”
 - “Emeralds are green gems” becomes “All emeralds are green gems”
 - “There are lions in the zoo” becomes _____?
 - “Children are human beings” becomes _____?
 - “Monkeys are mammals” becomes _____?
 - “Dolphins are swimming beneath the breakers” becomes _____?



Chapter 4: Categorical Statements — Translation from English VI

- **Nonstandard Quantifiers:** In English there are many types of quantifiers. In categorical logic, there are only two. Nonstandard quantifiers must be translated into standard quantifiers in a way that best preserves meaning.
 - “A few soldiers are heroes” becomes “____ soldiers are heroes”
 - “Not everyone who votes is a Democrat” becomes ____?
 - “Not a single dog is a cat” becomes ____?
 - “All newborns are not able to talk” becomes ____?
 - “All athletes are not superstars” becomes ____?
- Sometimes, more than one categorical claim will be required to capture the meaning of an English sentence with a nonstandard quantifier:
 - “A small percentage of the sailors entered the regatta” becomes ____?
 - “Few marriages last a lifetime” becomes ____?



Chapter 4: Categorical Statements — Translation from English VII

- **Conditional Statements:** Conditional statements can often be translated into universal categorical claims.
 - “If it’s a mouse, then it’s a mammal” becomes “All mice are mammals”
 - “If an animal has four legs, then it’s not a bird” becomes ____?
- When the “if” occurs in the middle of a sentence, we need to move it to the beginning, then translate into a universal claim:
 - “A person will succeed if he or she perseveres” becomes “If a person perseveres, then they will succeed” and then “All persons who persevere are persons who will succeed.”
 - “Jewelry is expensive if it is made of gold” becomes ____?
- The key is to preserve the meaning of the conditional. A helpful rule about conditionals is called **transposition**, which says that “If p , then q ” is equivalent to “If not q , then not p ”. (looks like *contraposition*!)



- “If something is not valuable then it is not scarce” becomes (by transposition) “If something is scarce then it is valuable” and then ____?
- Whenever you see “*p unless q*”, you can read this as “*p if not q*”.
 - “Tomatoes are edible unless they are spoiled” becomes “If a tomato is not spoiled then it is edible.” and then ____?
 - “Unless a boy misbehaves he will be treated decently” becomes ____ and then ____?



Chapter 4: Categorical Statements — Translation from English VIII

- **Exclusive Propositions:** Many propositions involve the words “only“, “none but”, “none except” and “no ... except” are exclusive propositions. We must be careful to get the subject and predicate terms right in such examples. It helps to translate into a conditional statement first, then into a universal categorical statement:
 - “Only elected officials will attend the convention”. Which is correct: “All elected officials are persons who will attend the convention” or “All persons who will attend the convention are elected officials”?
 - “None but the brave deserve the fair”. Which is correct: “All persons who deserve the fair are brave persons” or “All brave persons are persons who deserve the fair”?
 - “No birds except peacocks are proud of their tails.”
 - **General hint:** “Only *A* are *B*” becomes “All *B* are *A*”. The same goes for “none but ...” and “no ... except”.



Chapter 4: Categorical Statements — Translation from English IX & X

- **“The Only”**: “The only A are B ” gets translated as “All A are B ”. Note “*the only*” is different than “Only” in this sense.
 - “The only animals that live in this canyon are skunks” becomes “All animals that live in this canyon are skunks”.
 - “Accountants are the only ones who will be hired” becomes ____ and then ____?
- **Exceptive Propositions**: Statements of the form “All except S are P ” require *two* categorical statements for proper translation.
 - “All except students are invited” becomes “No students are invited persons, *and* ____”.
 - “All but managers must report to the president” becomes ____ *and* ____?



Chapter 4: Categorical Statements — Translation from English: Table of Hints

Key Word (to be eliminated)	Translation Hint
whoever, wherever, always, anyone. never, etc.	use “all” together with persons, places, times
a few	“some”
if ... then	use “all” or “no”
unless	“if not”
only, none but, none except, no ... except	use “all” and switch order of terms
the only	“all”
all but, all except, few	two statements required
not every, not all	“some ... are not”
there is, there are	“some”

