
Linguistics Seminar 3

1. EXAM QUESTION. Label the functions in the following sentences?

- a) Yesterday afternoon Janet sold her beautiful old house to the mysterious couple
- b) On arrival they realised the true nature of their mistake
- c) Sweets will be given to all those with perfect marks
- d) The crushing machine crushed the old car into pieces
- e) She seems a bit unhappy since the accident
- f) As special treat the teacher allowed the students an extra long lunch break

2. EXAM QUESTION. For each of the verbs below (a) select possible argument structures from the table (overleaf) (b) give example sentences.

NB the table shows the main argument structure configurations. There may be other possibilities. If so, write out the argument structure in full.

Here is an example:

tell → (3) She told a story, (5) She told her friend a story / she told a story to her friend.

- 1. spend
- 2. borrow
- 3. deliver
- 4. punish
- 5. fold
- 6. reveal
- 7. christen
- 8. take
- 9. plaster
- 10. surprise

Agent first	Theme first	Experiencer first	Patient first
(1) AG + V He jumped	(9) EXP + V He's suffering	(13) TH + V + EXP He scared me	(14) PAT + V the building collapsed
(2) AG + V + PAT She hit the mugger	(10) EXP + V + TH She saw the accident		
(3) AG + V + TH He reviewed the offer	(11) EXP + V + TH + ATTR I consider him a geniuses		
(4) AG + V + PAT + ATTR He hammered the nail flat	(12) EXP + V + ATTR I feel tired		
(5) AG + V + PAT + BEN She gave a sweet to her friend			
(6) AG + V + PAT + INSTR She covered the wall with paint			
(7) AG + V + PAT + LOC He took the money from the wallet			
(8) AG + V + LOC He went home			