

What are functs?

Phrases in diff posns

5 minute exercise

Typology of functs

Funcs & posn

Funcs & posn

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Post-verbal functs

(b) Objects

(c) Sub & Ob comps.

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Behaviour of phrases in different positions

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1. [The smelly brown dog *NP*] chased the scrawny grey cat
2. The scrawny grey cat chased [the smelly brown dog *NP*]
3. The woman hit the man [with a French stick *PP*]
4. The woman [with a French stick *PP*] with a French stick left the bakery

Functions are defined **in relation to the verb**.

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07 - Syntactic Functions

Nick Riches

Try to learn the following artificial language

1. Gugo bikavit lamnok = 'The cat chased the dog'
2. Lopo bikavit tunglish = 'The cat ate the food'
3. Lopo gugo lamnok = 'The dog likes the food'

What does the following sentence mean?

1. Bikavit gugo tunglish

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Try to learn the following artificial language

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2. Lopo bikavit tunglish = 'The cat ate the food'
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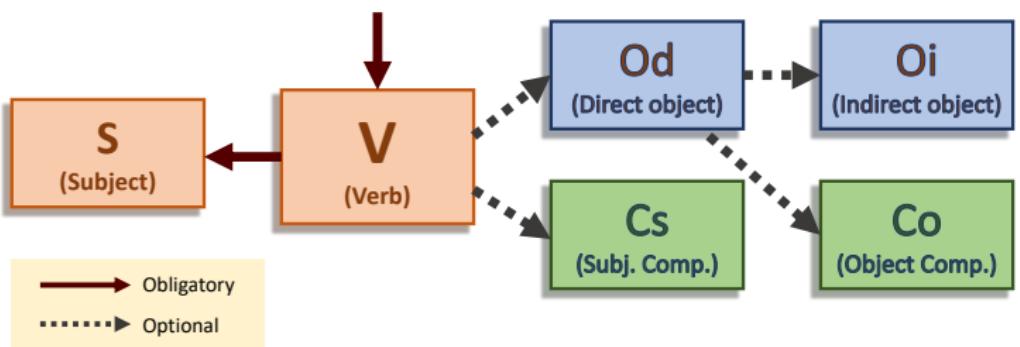
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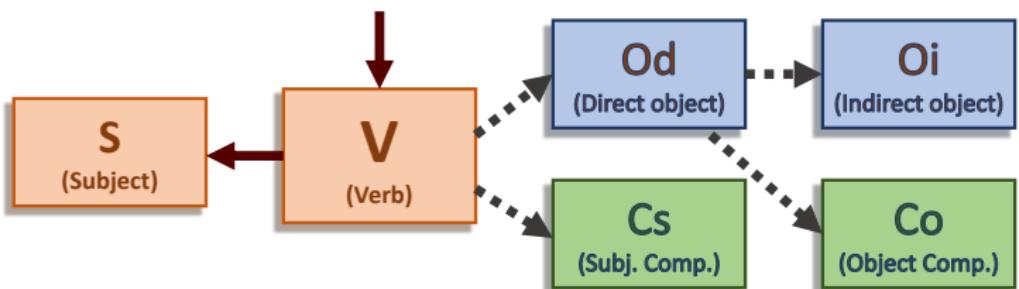
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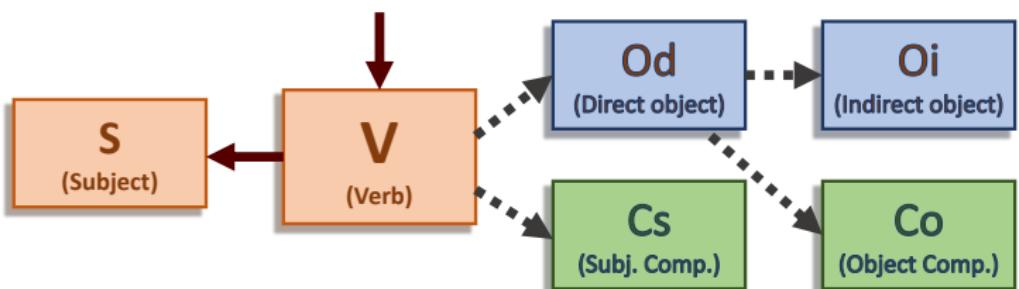
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She hit the ball



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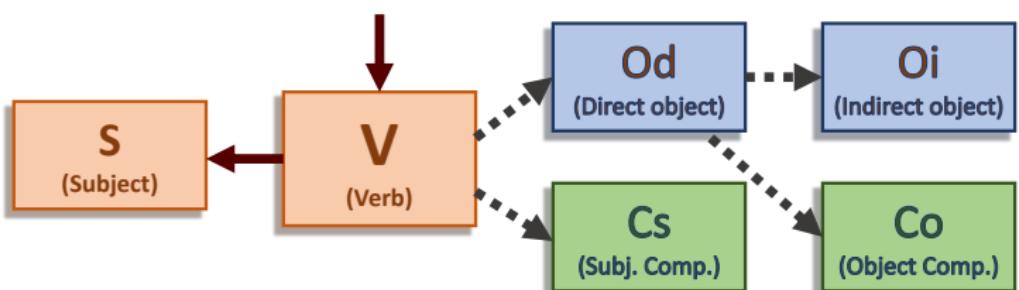
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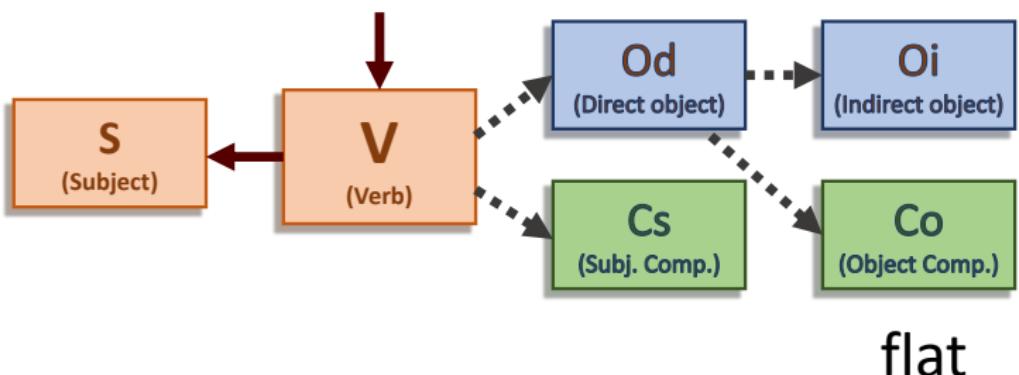
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She crushed the can



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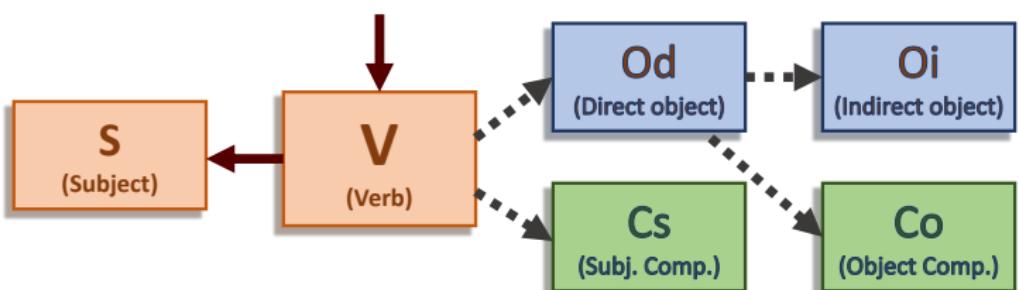
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She is happy

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Function is derived from position

1. [The smelly brown dog *NP*] chased the scrawny grey cat
2. The scrawny grey cat chased [the smelly brown dog *NP*]
3. The woman hit the man [with a French stick *PP*]
4. The woman [with a French stick *PP*] with a French stick left the bakery

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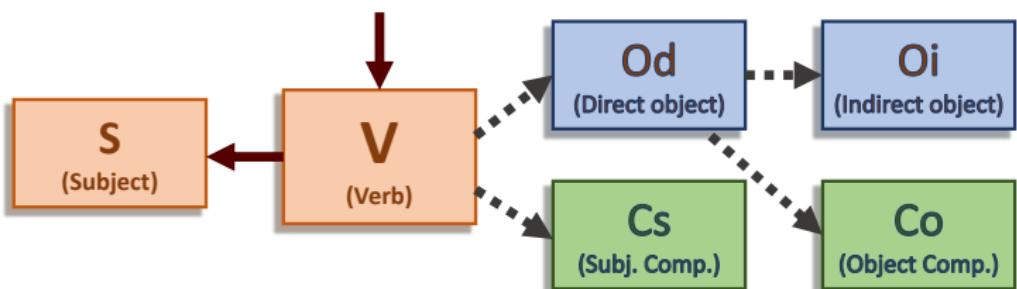
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(a) Subject

She swims



(a) Subject

1. [Syntax *SUBJECT*] **rocks!** *VERB*
2. [Madonna *SUBJECT*] **sings** *VERB*
3. [That donkey *SUBJECT*] **kicks!** *VERB*

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(a) Subject

Subject is not always the do-er!

1. [Breakfast SUB.] is served

Functions are derived from **position** and are indirectly linked to semantics.

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(a) Subject

Only type of sentence where subject can be omitted is the **imperative**

1. (You) stop that!
2. (You) don't forget your hat!

Subject-Verb Agreement

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Subject-Verb Agreement

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Agreement can exist between other words, e.g.

(1) She likes herself / *himself

Gender agreement between pronouns

(2) She had many apples and much cheese

Agreement between determiner and noun
(mass/count distinction)

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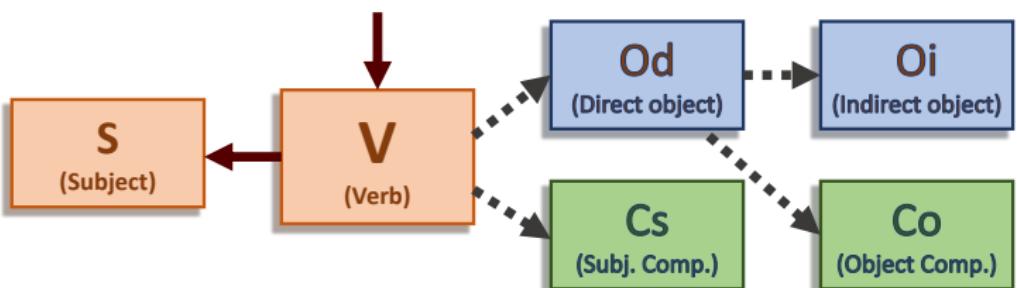
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Intransitive verbs.

1. He yawned ____
2. She ran ____

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(b) Objects

Some verbs take two objects, in which case we have a **direct** and an **indirect object**.

	Direct Object (Od in LARSP)	Indirect Object (Oi in LARSP)
Meaning	The thing which changes location / possession, e.g. <i>She gave the ball to Jack</i>	The thing which receives the transferred entity, e.g. <i>She gave the ball to Jack</i>
Animacy	Often inanimate	Often animate
Syntax	Does not come after a preposition	Often comes after a preposition

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(b) Objects

Note that the Indirect Object is “parasitic” on the Direct Object

1. Janet gave [a book *Dir. Object*]
2. Janet gave [a book *Dir. Object*] [to Mary *Ind. Object*]
3. ?? Janet gave [to Mary *Ind. Object*]

(b) Objects

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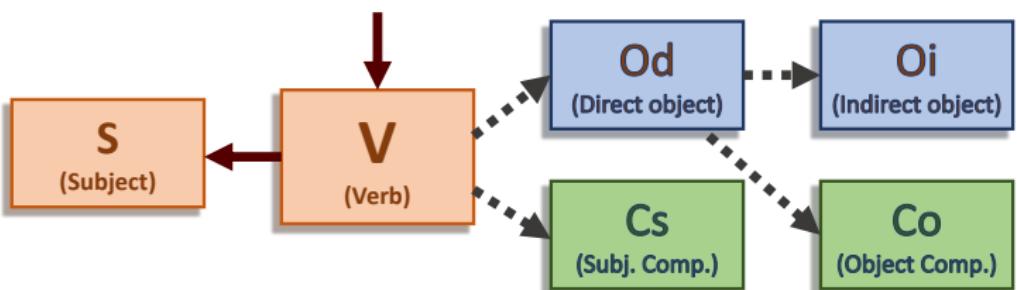
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(b) Objects

For the following sentences, which are the direct and indirect objects?

1. Albert showed Victoria his stamp collection
2. Ennis brought a book for Angie
3. Could you rustle me up an omellete?
4. Patricia sent her friend a letter

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- Albert showed Victoria his stamp collection

Albert showed Victoria O_i his stamp collection O_d

- Ennis brought a book for Angie

- Could you rustle me up an omellete?

- Patricia sent her friend a letter

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Albert showed Victoria Oi his stamp collection Od

2. Ennis brought a book for Angie

Ennis brought a book Od for Angie Oi

3. Could you rustle me up an omellette?

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2. Ennis brought a book for Angie

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3. Could you rustle me up an omellete?

Could you rustle me Oi up an omelette Od

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(b) Objects

For the following sentences, which are the direct and indirect objects?

- Albert showed Victoria his stamp collection

Albert showed Victoria Oi his stamp collection Od

- Ennis brought a book for Angie

Ennis brought a book Od for Angie Oi

- Could you rustle me up an omellete?

Could you rustle me Oi up an omelette Od

- Patricia sent her friend a letter

Patricia sent her friend Oi a letter Od

(b) Objects

1. Abdul sent Josh **oi** a letter **Od**
(called the “Double Object Dative”)
2. Abdul sent a letter **Od** **to** Josh **oi**
(called the “Prepositional Dative”)

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(b) Objects

Verbs taking 3 arguments:

Verbs of physical transfer (*give, take, receive, lend, borrow, deliver, donate, show*)

Verbs of metaphorical transfer (*tell, explain*)

(b) Subject and Object complements

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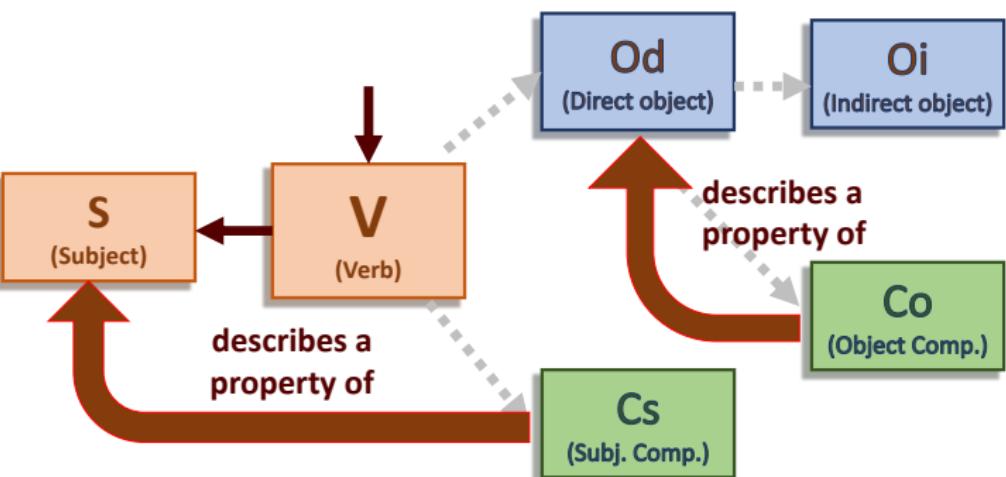
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(b) Subject and Object complements

1. Jack is [terrible at maths] = Cs describing Subject *Jack*
2. Ali appears [troubled] at the moment = Cs describing Subject *Ali*
3. I consider him [my best friend] = Co describing Object *him*
4. I want that bedroom [cleaned] by tomorrow = Co describing Object *bedroom*
5. Genevieve painted her bedroom walls [dark green] = Co describing Object *her bedroom walls*
6. The mechanic hammered the panel [flat] = Co describing Object *the panel*

Complements can be realised by a **variety** of different phrases.

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(b) Subject and Object complements

Verbs which can take subject complements

- ▶ The copula - *is/are/was/were*
- ▶ Verbs of appearance - *seem, appear, look*, e.g. *she seems / looks / appears tired*
- ▶ Verbs of perception - *feel, smell, sound, taste*, e.g. *the food smells / tastes funny*
- ▶ Verbs of persistence - *stay, remain*, e.g. *You must stay / remain calm*

Verbs which can take object complements : *appoint, call, certify, consider, crown, declare, elect, find, hold, imagine, keep, like, make, name, prefer, proclaim, profess, pronounce, prove, report, send, think, turn*

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(b) Subject and Object complements

Complements are less moveable than Objects.

1. Jack gave Peter the book →
The book was given to Peter by Jack
2. Jack gave Peter the book →
Peter was given the book by Jack
3. Jack resembles Paul →
* Paul is resembled by Jack
4. Magda named her daughter Isobel →
* Isobel was named her daughter by Magda

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(d) Adverbials

Object and Complement Functions determined by verb.

1. Jack sat
2. * Jack sat [the chair *OBJECT*]

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(d) Adverbials

Adverbials not chosen by verb. They are optional. They appear at the sentence **periphery**. They modify the *entire sentence*

1. [On Tuesday] we should have a picnic [in my opinion]
2. [With a bit of luck] we will have good weather [from tomorrow]

(d) Adverbials

1. We [luckily had *VERB COMPLEX*] good weather

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(e) Postmodifiers

Postmodifiers modify the Noun. They come **after** the noun,
e.g.

1. The **man** [with the red hat] followed me down the street
2. The **dog** [that scratched me] was a Border Collie

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	Adverbial	Postmodifier
What do they modify?	The entire sentence	The NP
Where are they found?	At the "periphery"	After the NP
Are they movable	Yes	No

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Label all the functions in the following sentences. Label the verb complex **V**.

1. I want James Bond dead
2. Last night we had a marvellous meal
3. Janice sent her boss the email yet again
4. The tramp threw the bottle at the policeman

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Label all the functions in the following sentences. Label the verb complex **V**.

1. I want James Bond dead

S V Od Co

2. Last night we had a marvellous meal

3. Janice sent her boss the email yet again

4. The tramp threw the bottle at the policeman

Label all the functions in the following sentences. Label the verb complex **V**.

1. I want James Bond dead

S **V** **Od** **Co**

2. Last night we had a marvellous meal

A **S** **V** **Od**

3. Janice sent her boss the email yet again

4. The tramp threw the bottle at the policeman

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1. I want James Bond dead

S V Od Co

2. Last night we had a marvellous meal

A S V Od

3. Janice sent her boss the email yet again

S V Oi Od A

4. The tramp threw the bottle at the policeman

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S **V** **Od** **Co**

2. Last night we had a marvellous meal

A **S** **V** **Od**

3. Janice sent her boss the email yet again

S **V** **Oi** **Od** **A**

4. The tramp threw the bottle at the policeman

S **V** **Od** **Oi**

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	Singular		Plural	
Person	NOM	ACC	NOM	ACC
1st	I like her	You like me	We like it	It pleased us
2nd	You like him	They like you	You like him	It pleases you
3rd	He / she / it likes fish	The dog likes him / her / it	They liked it	It pleases them

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Other languages have much richer case systems, e.g. with special forms for direct versus indirect objects, and the possibility of marking case on Nouns as well as pronouns.

e.g. Latin has 6 cases!

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Subject omission (Grela 1997, 2003)

1. (He) went there.

1. **Him** go es there.

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What is wrong with the following sentences?

1. Jack gave Mary
2. Petula put the beans
3. Julie laughed Peter

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