Questions on Bender, Chapters 4–6

1. According to Bender, the term *morphosyntax* is ambiguous. Explain the two uses of the term.
2. Does your native language (or any other language you know) have tense and aspect? Are they expressed by inflection or by other means?
3. What is meant by saying that gender is an *inherent* feature of nouns, while number is an *inflectional* feature? What is the status of person in this respect?
4. Does your language have morphological case marking? What are the cases?
5. Which of the following phenomena are marked (a) by inflection or (b) by other means in your language:
    a. Negation
    b. Definiteness
    c. Possessives
6. Explain the notion of agreement. How does it relate to the distinction of *inherent* and *inflectional* features mentioned earlier?
7. Bender describes two views of syntax, one focusing on *grammaticality* and the other on *semantic composition*. Explain the two views and their (possible) connections.
8. How can part-of-speech categories like noun and verb be defined? Bender discusses two (or possibly three or four) different approaches. Which are they?
9. Is there a universal part-of-speech tag set applicable to all languages? Discuss possible interpretations of (and answers to this question).