

# Homework 2

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## Exercise 1

*Syntactic Constructions in English* (Kim and Michaelis, 1e) Exercise 2.1 (partial)

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### Part (a)

Semantically, *well* does not seem to refer to anything. Morphologically, *well* can take plural marking to form *wells*. Syntactically, *well* occurs in the following environment:

- (1) He treats John very well.

The syntactic function of *well* is the most reliable criterion, allowing us to determine it is an adjective.

### Part (c)

Semantically, *well* refers to an object. Morphologically, *well* can take plural marking to form *wells*. Syntactically, *well* occurs in the following environment:

- (2) They have no well.

The syntactic function of *well* is the most reliable criterion, allowing us to determine it is a noun.

### Part (e)

Semantically, *Google* refers to an entity. Morphologically, *Google* can take possessive marking to form *Google's*. Syntactically, *Google* occurs in the following environment:

- (3) Where is Google's office?

The syntactic function of *Google* is the most reliable criterion, allowing us to determine it is a noun.

### **Part (g)**

Semantically, *for* introduces a clause. Morphologically, *for* cannot take any marking. Syntactically, *for* introduces a complement clause. Syntactically, *for* occurs in the following environment:

- (4) All you want is *for* nothing.

The syntactic function of *for* is the most reliable criterion, allowing us to determine it is a complementizer.

## Exercise 2

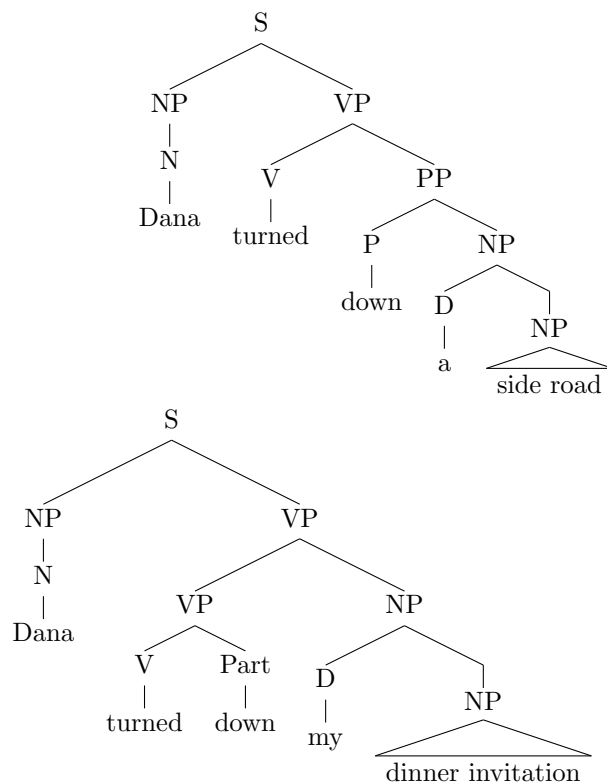
*Syntactic Constructions in English* (Kim and Michaelis, 1e) Exercise 2.4 (partial)

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### Part (ii)

- (5) \* It was down my dinner invitation that Dana turned.
- (6) It was down a side road that Dana turned.
- (7) \* What did Dana turn? Down my dinner invitation.
- (8) What did Dana turn? Down a side road.

The italicized part in (b) forms a constituent, but (a) does not.

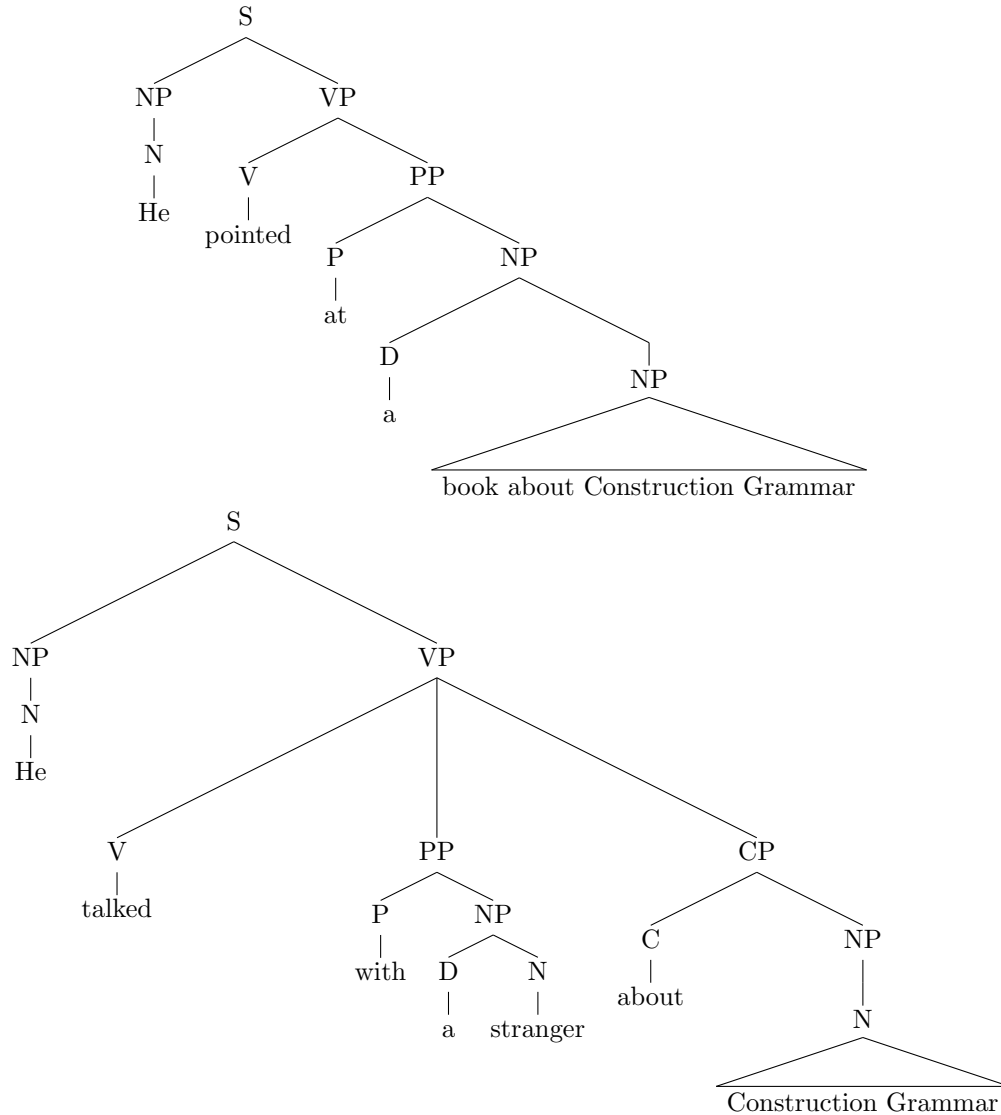


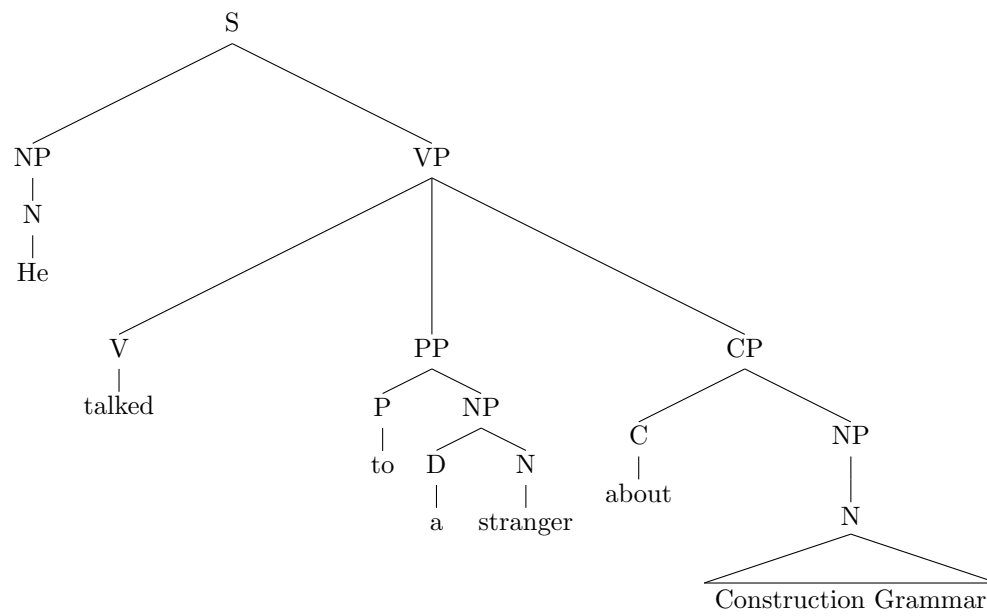
### Part (iii)

- (9) It was a book about Construction Grammar that he pointed at.
- (10) \* It was a stranger about Construction Grammar that he talked to.
- (11) \* It was a stranger about Construction Grammar that he talked with.

- (12) What did he point at? A book about Construction Grammar.  
 (13) \* Who did he talk to? A stranger about Construction Grammar.  
 (14) \* Who did he talk with? A stranger about Construction Grammar.

The italicized part in (a) forms a constituent, but (b) and (c) do not.



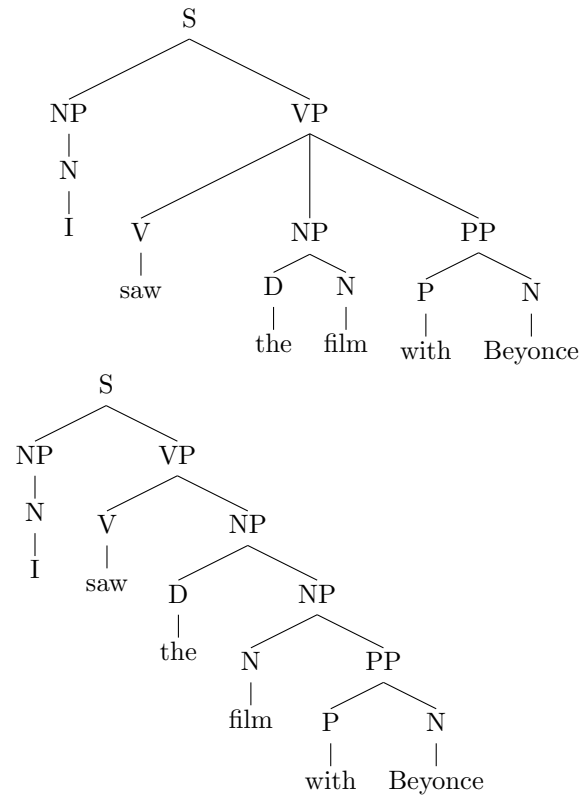


### Exercise 3

*Syntactic Constructions in English* (Kim and Michaelis, 1e) Exercise 2.8 (partial)

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#### Part (a)



## Exercise 4

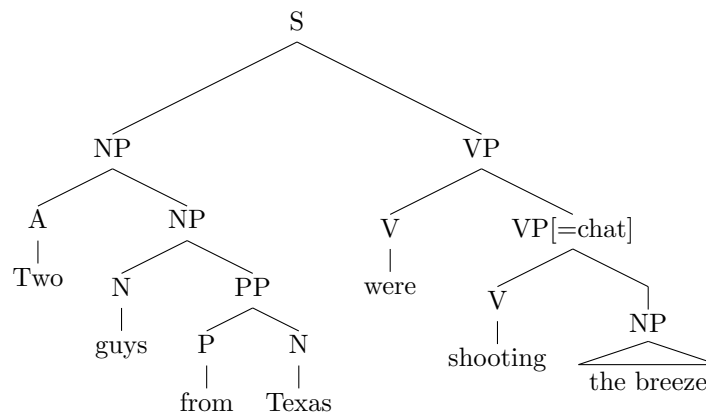
*Syntactic Constructions in English* (Kim and Michaelis, 1e) Exercise 2.9 (partial)

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### Part (a)

*shooting the breeze* is idiomatic, as it can be inflected but does not allow internal modification or passivization.

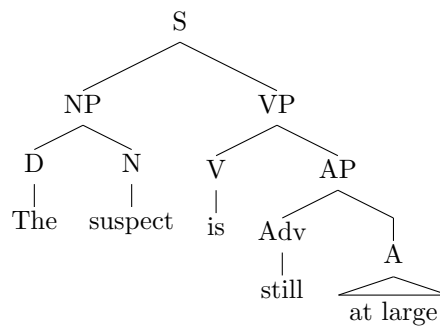
- (15) Two guys from Texas shot the breeze.



### Part (c)

*at large* is fixed, as it allows neither inflection, internal modification, nor passivization.

- (16) \*The suspect is still at larger



### Part (d)

*try ... on* is a verb-particle complex, as the particle does not form a constituent with the object:

(17) \*It was the boots on that I tried.

