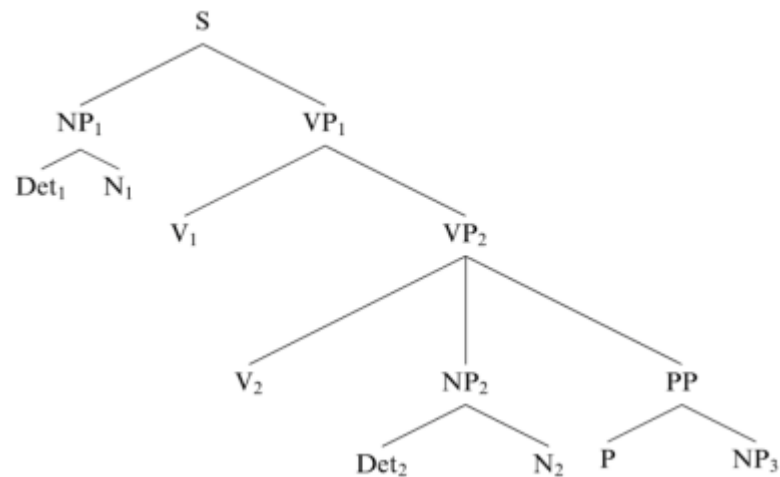


LING 304 HW 3 (due Monday, September 26)

1. Draw the phrase structure tree for the following sentence:

The latest research on dieting always warns people about the dangers of high cholesterol.

2. Consider the tree below, and answer the questions that follow:



- a) What nodes does VP₁ dominate? Immediately dominate?
- b) What nodes does S immediately dominate?
- c) What nodes does NP₂ dominate? Immediately dominate?
- d) What nodes does VP₁ exhaustively dominate?
- e) What nodes are the sisters of NP₁?
- f) What nodes are the sisters of V₂?
- g) What node is the mother of Det₁?

3. Are the follow patterns accusative or ergative? Explain your answer.

i. *Inuit*

- (1) a. anguti-up tuktu taku-jaa
 'The man saw the caribou.'
 - b. tuktu niri-juq
 'The caribou was eating.'
- [Johns 1987]

ii. *Russian*

- (2) a. Ja pročital knigu.
 'I read a/the book.'

- b. Kniga v komnate.
'The book is in the room.'
- c. Ja daval knigu Ivan'e
'I gave the book to Ivan.'
- d. Ivan videt mnja.
'Ivan sees me.'

iii. *Nepali*

- (3)
- a. manis-le aymay dekh-yo
'The man saw a woman.'
 - b. aymay-le manis dekh-yin
'The woman saw a man.'
 - c. manis uphr-yo
'The man jumped.'
 - d. aymay uphr-yin
'The woman jumped.'
 - e. manis ghōr-ma go-yo
'The man went to the house.'
 - f. aymay ghōr-ma go-yin
'The woman went to the house.'
- [Givón 2001:208]

4. If English were an ergative language, what would be the form of the pronoun *they / them* in the position marked by an underscore in each of the following sentences?

- a) ____ are sleeping.
- b) Do ____ like the music?
- c) Sandy doesn't know ____ very well.
- d) Why are ____ talking so loud?
- e) Put ____ on the table, please.

5. Consider the following sentence, and answer the questions that follow.

(1) *Juliet says that Romeo lies to his parents a lot.*

- a) Note that this sentence is ambiguous as to which verb the adverb phrase *a lot* modifies. Paraphrase the two interpretations in your own words.
- b) Draw two phrase structure trees for this sentence, each corresponding to one of the two interpretations. (Keep in mind the principle of modification!) .
- c) Recall that VP-constituency can be established by using VP-preposing. The sentence below shows that *eat apples* is a constituent. A string that can be preposed by VP-preposing qualifies as a VP.

(2) *Eat apples, Julian does every day.*

Develop a proposal for why the VP preposed version of (1) given below in (3) is not ambiguous anymore, and why it is still ambiguous in (4).

- (3) Lie to his parents *a lot*, Juliet says that Romeo does
 (4) Lie to his parents, Juliet says that Romeo does *a lot*.

6. Consider the following data taken from Mchombo (2004) from the Bantu language Chichewa, and answer the questions that follow.

- 1) Mikángo ikusáká zigawenga
 lions hunt.PRES terrorists
 "The lions are hunting the terrorists."
- 2) Asodzi adzábá mikángo yanú
 fisherman steal.FUT lions your
 "The fisherman will steal your lions."
- 3) Anyani akufūná kuti mikángo idzáb mikanda.
 baboons want that lions steal.FUT.SUBJUNCTIVE beads
 "The baboons want that the lions will steal some food."

- Assume that *yanú* is a determiner. What is the NP rule for Chichewa?
- What is the VP rule for Chichewa? (stick to the data given.) Assume that the string of words following "want" is a CP.
- What is the TP rule for Chichewa?
- Draw the trees for sentences (2) and (3).