

Chapter 8, Problem 4: Coordination and Tense

We argued in section 8.5.2 that FORM values have to be identical across conjuncts. Hence, if we had distinct FORM values like ‘3sg_present’, ‘non3sg_present’ and ‘past’, we would predict that present and past tense verbs and verb phrases could not be coordinated. But they can:

- (1) a. They were hippies in the sixties and are stockbrokers now.
- b. I like bicycling and enjoyed gymnastics in my youth.
- c. Chris is and (always) was a hypocrite.
- d. Sandy had and (still) has an attitude problem.

By giving all finite verbs the same FORM value, we make it possible to generate such sentences.