

Chương 7

1. State why each of the sentences are ambiguous or not. Specifically, state whether they are ambiguous because of their possible syntactic structures, their word senses, their semantic structures, or a combination of these factors. Give a paraphrase of each reading.

a) A man stopped at every truck stop.

b) Several people ate the pizza.

c) We saw her duck.

Giải

a) A man stopped at every truck stop.

Ambiguous with structure

1. “At every truck stop, there is a man stopped”.

That means, at every truck stop has a man stopped there, these “man” do not need to be 1 person.

2. “There is a man who stopped at every truck stop”.

That means, this “man” is 1 person, he stopped at every truck stop that he came to.

b) Several people ate the pizza.

Ambiguous with word senses

1. “A group of people ate 1 pizza”.

That means, these “people” is a group, eat a whole pizza at the same time.

2. “Many people ate their own pizza”.

That means, these “people” do not need to be 1 group together or eat 1 pizza or eat at the same time.

c) We saw her duck.

Ambiguous with word meanings.

1. “She had a duck, we saw that duck”.

That means, in this case “duck” is an animal.

2. “She ducked, we saw that”.

That means, in this case “duck” is a verb “cúi xuống”.

2. Specify a quasi-logical form for the following sentences. If the sentence is ambiguous, make sure you represent all the possibilities, either using ambiguous logical forms or listing several logical forms.

a) George ate a pizza at every road stop.

b) Several employees from every company bought a pizza.

c) We saw John in the park by the beach

Giải

a) George ate a pizza at every road stop.

(NAME GEORGE g1) (A p1: (PIZZA p1) (PAST EAT g1 p1)) (EVERY r1: (ROADSTOP r1) (AT g1 r1))

b) Several employees from every company bought a pizza.

1. (SEVERAL e1: (EMPLOYEE e1) (EVERY c1: (COMPANY c1) (FROM e1 c1))

& (A p1: (PIZZA p1) (PAST BUY e1 p1)))

2. (A p1: (PIZZA p1) (SEVERAL e1: (EMPLOYEE e1) (EVERY c1: (COMPANY c1) (FROM e1 c1)) (PAST BUY e1 p1)))

3. (SEVERAL e1: (EMPLOYEE e1) (EVERY c1: (COMPANY c1) (A p1: (PIZZA p1) (PAST BUY c1 p1)) (FROM e1 c1)))

4. (SEVERAL e1: (EMPLOYEE e1) (A p1: (PIZZA p1) (EVERY c1: (COMPANY c1) (PAST BUY c1 p1)) (FROM e1 c1)))

c) We saw John in the park by the beach.

1. ((THE b1: (BEACH b1) (THE p1: (PARK p1)) (BY p1 b1) (NAME JOHN j1) (IN j1 p1)) (PRO WE w1) (PAST (SEE w1 j1)))

2. (The b1: (BEACH b1) (The p1: (PARK p1) (NAME JOHN j1) (IN j1 p1)) (PRO WE w1) (PAST (SEE w1 j1)) (BY w1 b1))