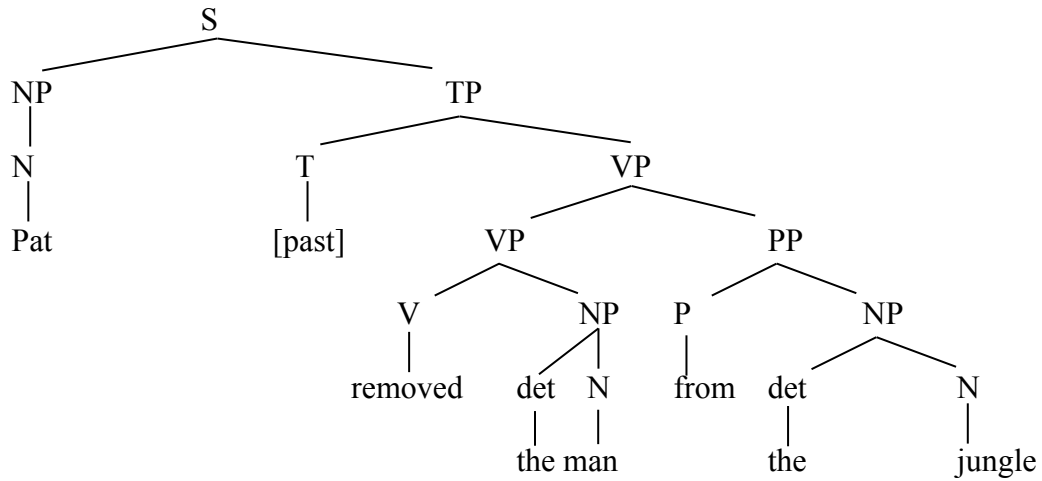


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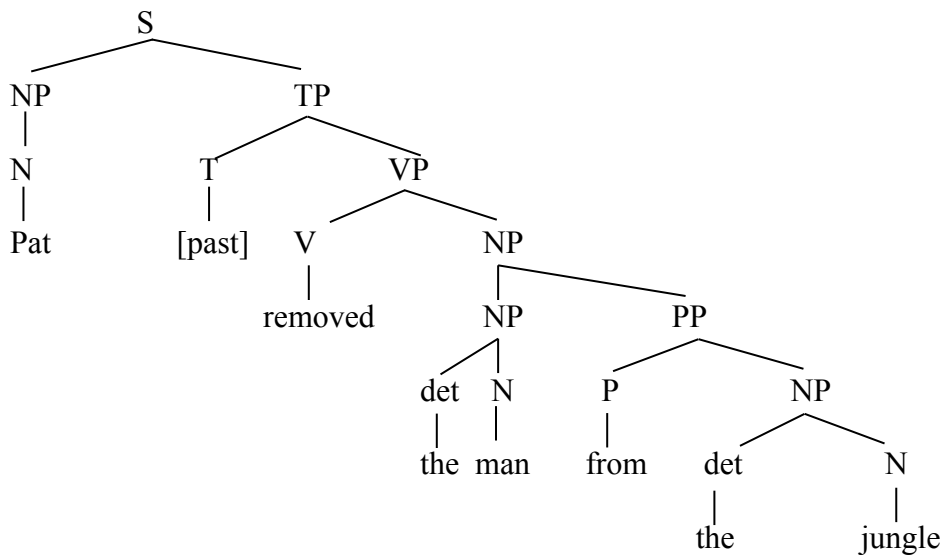
Linguistics 001
 Spring 2009
 Midterm

I. Syntactic Structures [6 points]

1. The sentence “Pat removed the man from the jungle” is structurally ambiguous. For each of the structures shown below, write a paraphrase that unambiguously identifies the meaning that the structure represents.



Reading: Pat aids in the daring rescue of Doctor Livingstone from the clutches of savages.



Reading: Pat is a bouncer who throws Tarzan out of the club.

2. Which of the following sentences has the trace *t* misplaced? Circle the sentences with traces in the wrong position (there may be more than one).

- a) What did you enter the competition *t* expecting to win **t**?
- b) Which of the following statements *t* presents an accurate description of your political opinions?
- c) Naval warfare, he loves to read about *t*.
- d) How many over-excited kindergartners **t** were seen *t* stampeding across the playground?

II. Ambiguity [2 points]

Each of the following sentences is ambiguous in a different way; for each, circle the type of ambiguity that it contains.

- | | | | |
|--|---------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 1. Most dogs eat some brand of dog food. | scopal | structural | lexical |
| 2. Skwisgaar is the most brutal guitarist of all time. | scopal | structural | lexical |
| 3. I saw the man with the telescope. | scopal | structural | lexical |

III. Gricean Maxims [2 points]

For each of the exchanges below,

- (a) Underline the indirect speech act in the exchange.
- (b) Identify the maxim being violated, and explain the intended meaning.

1. (a) **Paul: Can you please tell the court how long you've worked for Acme?**
Felicity: A while.
(b) Maxim violation and intended meaning:
TWO ACCEPTABLE ANSWERS: (a) Felicity is violating "Quantity" and so her intension is to be defiantly vague. (b) Paul is flouting/violating "Relevance" because his questions direct meaning is "Are you able to do something?" but the indirect meaning is actually a command.
2. (a) **Ray: You think there's a connection between this Vigo character and the ... slime?**
Egon: Is the atomic weight of cobalt 58.9?
(b) Maxim violation and intended meaning:
Egon's reply flouts/violates the maxim of "Relevance" because it does not respond in a cooperative way to Ray's yes/no question. The intended meaning is, "Yes, obviously I do think so"
3. (a) **John: I'm sorry, but we're going to have to let you go.**
Mac: Oh, great, my wife's going to be SO happy.
(b) Maxim violation and intended meaning:
TWO ACCEPTABLE ANSWERS: (a) John's sentence violates "Quality" because it isn't strictly true. It has the direct meaning "we're being forced to allow you to leave" but the indirect meaning "you're being forced to leave (you're fired)". (b) Mac's reply is sarcastic. Sarcasm is a violation of "Quality," because its direct meaning is not true. The indirect (intended) meaning is "my wife will be sad"

IV. Typology of Word Orders [6 points]

In class, we discussed rules for generating phrase structure like $S \rightarrow NP TP$ and $TP \rightarrow T VP$, and ways that these rules can be manipulated. We know how to use them to build the English order, $S Aux V O$ (where “Aux” is in T). Now, apply this knowledge to the two word orders given below. For each, briefly discuss the following:

- Can the order be generated using our phrase structure rules? Why or why not?
- What additional tools, if any, are necessary to get the word order?

Drawing trees may be helpful.

1. $V O Aux S$

Can be formed:

$[_s [_{tp} [_{vp} V NP_{obj}] AUX] NP_{subj}]$

2. $V S Aux O$

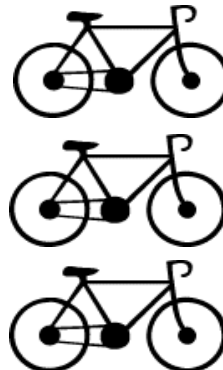
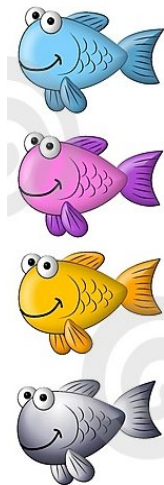
3 points for "Cannot be formed: you can't get V and O to form a constituent"

3 points for "Movement must occur"

V. Semantics [4 points]

1. Below is one reading of the ambiguous sentence “Every fish rode a bicycle.” Use the images below, drawing lines from fish to bicycles as necessary, to make a diagram of the reading given.

$\exists y \forall x \text{RODE}(x,y)$



Any diagram which shows all the fish riding only ONE of the bikes.

2. The English words *break* meaning “a pause in a meeting or event” and *break* meaning “a crack in a physical object” are:

- a) Allomorphs
- b) Polygrams
- c) Homophones
- d) **Polysemes (there is an obvious connection between the two senses)**

VI. The International Phonetic Alphabet [4 points]

1. Identify the first sound in the following words, using the IPA:

rate ɹ

eat i

shape ʃ

2. Identify the last sound in the following words, using the IPA:

plaque k

bomb m

3. Write the English sentence this IPA transcription indicates:

lɛts tɹaɪ tə faɪnd ðə ɡɒst ɪnstɛd

let's try to find the ghost instead!

ðə dæmədʒ rɪdʊsəz ðə vɛljʊ

the damage reduces the value.

VII. Allomorphy [4 points]

Look at the data below from San Mateo Huave, a language spoken in Mexico, and answer the questions that follow.

akɨlis	"I wait"
akɨliwɨ	"we wait"
akɨlihts	"we all wait"
takɨlihts	"we all waited"
akɨbis	"I accompany"
takɨbis	"I accompanied"
akɨbihts	"we all accompany"
tandɨilɨilis	"I returned"
andɨilɨiliwɨ	"we return"
andɨilɨihtsan	"we all just returned"

1. What is the morpheme that means "I"?

-s

2. What is the morpheme that indicates past tense?

t-

3. What is the morpheme that indicates "just"?

-an

4. What is the morpheme that indicates "we all"?

-hts

New High German [4 points]

The following are data from New High German. You will notice that some of these words show stem allomorphy. Consider the data and answer the questions below.

Mädchen	'girl'
Mädchen	'girls'
Huhn	'hen'
Hühner	'hens'
Vogel	'bird'
Vögel	'birds'
Mann	'man'
Männer	'men'
Pony	'pony'
Ponys	'ponies'
Arm	'weapon'
Arme	'weapons'
Mensch	'human being'
Menschen	'human beings'

1. List all the allomorphs of the plural suffix.

-en, -er, -e, -s, -Ø

2. What is the allomorph that attaches to the word for 'girl' to make it plural?

-Ø

3. What are the stem allomorphs of the word meaning 'hen'?

huhn, hühn

VIII. Morphology and Case [4 points]

Consider this data from a mystery language and answer the questions that follow. Pay special attention to the tense system of this language, as it may show an interesting alternation. Note that the word order matches that of the English translation, as shown:

evum-ban eghbk-gel
the man screams

abibo-ban gippa-gel evum-em
the kitten follows the man

yabo-yom gip-yak-pa abibo-bloo
the tiger followed the kitten

abibo-ban dim-gel
the kitten sleeps

yabo-bloo di-yak-m
the tiger slept

evum-ban ajuub-gel khakk-em
the man sees the tree

evum-bloo egh-yak-bk
the man screamed

evum-yom ajuu-yak-b khakk-bloo
the man saw the tree

1. Is this a nominative/accusative language, an ergative/absolute, or some split between the two? What patterns do you observe?

There is a split. Past-tense verbs license the use of ergative/absolute case marking, and present-tense ones license a nominative/accusative pattern.

2. List the tense morphemes you know of this language. What sort of morphemes are they (prefix, suffix, etc.)?

-gel, present tense suffix
-yak-, past tense infix

IX. Phonological Rules [4 points]

Consider these dialects of German:

German A	German B		
kɪnt	kɪnd	child	
kɪndəs	kɪndəs		of a child
gəbit	gəbit	region	
gəbitəs	gəbitəs		of a region
tak	tag	day	
tagəs	tagəs		of a day
baum	baum	tree	
bauməs	bauməs		of a tree
werk	werk	work (i.e. “work of art”)	
werkəs	werkəs		of a work
laip	laib	corpse	
laibəs	laibəs		of a corpse
ʃpil	ʃpil	game	
ʃpiləs	ʃpiləs		of a game
lip	lib	love	
libəs	libəs		of love
haupt	haupt	skin	
hauptəs	hauptəs		of skin
lait	laid	sorrow	
laidəs	laidəs		of sorrow
traum	traum	dream	
trauməs	trauməs		of a dream

1. There is a phonological rule that applies in one dialect but not the other. Write out this rule by identifying the environment where it applies, what natural class it applies to, and what natural class it generates.

+voice → -voice / __ #, applying to Dialect A

an inverted rule that voices sounds before -əs of words in Dialect A will run into a problem with patterns like 'werk' ~ 'werkəs'

2. The rule you have identified above could best be described as a rule of:

- Intervocalic voicing
- Post-traumatic nasalization
- Word-final vocalizations
- Word-final devoicing**

X. Bonus

What was Ernie doing when he got in trouble?

Answer must mention “smoking pot” or “doing drugs” or similar.