

Linguistics Study Guide

unfortunately created by Sarah Frank (LOL)

Notes- Phonology and Phonetics**IPA Chart:**

CONSONANTS (PULMONIC)

	Bilabial	Labiodental	Dental	Alveolar	Postalveolar	Retroflex	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyngeal	Glottal
Plosive	p b		t d			ʈ ɖ	c ɟ	k ɡ	q ɢ		ʔ
Nasal	m	ɱ	n			ɳ	ɲ	ŋ	ɴ		
Trill	ʙ		r						ʀ		
Tap or Flap			ɾ			ɽ					
Fricative	ɸ β	f v	θ ð	s z	ʃ ʒ	ʂ ʐ	ç ʝ	x ɣ	χ ʁ	ħ ʕ	h ɦ
Lateral fricative			ɬ ɮ								
Approximant		ʋ	ɹ			ɻ	j	ɰ			
Lateral approximant			l			ɭ	ʎ	ʟ			

Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a voiced consonant. Shaded areas denote articulations judged impossible.

Phonology & Phonetics Vocab

- **Phonology:** the study of how sounds pattern
- **Phonetics:** the study of the properties of sounds
- **Sonorant:** any of the nasal, liquid, and glide consonants that are marked by a continuing resonant sound
 - English sonorants: y, w, l, r, m, n, and ŋ
- **Obstruents:** plosive sounds (the stops, the fricatives, and the affricates)
 - English obstruents: p, t, k, b, d, ɡ, f, s, ʃ, x, v, z, ʒ, ʁ, and affricates
- **allomorph:** variations of things with the same meaning (same concept as an allophone but for morphemes)
 - ex: s → z for pluralization
- **allophones** – different representation of a sound
 - ex: [t] → [tʰ]
- **fricatives:** a type of consonant made by the friction of breath in a narrow opening, producing a turbulent air flow.
 - you can hold it

- **sibilants**: a subclass of fricatives and affricates that make a hiss sound
 - s, z, etc
- **flap**: tongue quickly pulls backwards hitting quickly the alveolar ridge
 - ex: the middle sound in “writer”
 - the difference is in the vowels
- **glides**: consonants sometimes called semi-vowels because they have very little closure
 - ex: w (voiced bilabial)
- **nasal sound**: sound flows out of the nose because your mouth is closed
- **oral sound**: sound you use your mouth for
- **manner of articulation**: relates to the degree of mouth closure
 - stops are made with complete closure
- **spoonerism**: switching consonants between words
 - ex: spill the milk → mill the spilk

Symbols in Phonology

- squiggly boy is nasal
- ^h = aspiration
- little circle underneath = voiceless
- slashes = phonemes (ex: /t/)
- brackets = actual sounds [ex: t^h = aspirated /t/ sound]

Place of articulation

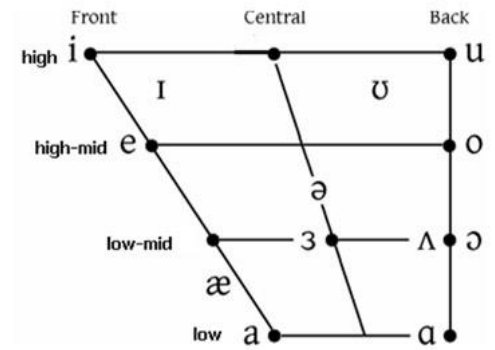
- bilabial: both lips (ex: p, b, m)
- labiodental: lower lip and upper teeth (ex: f)
- dental: teeth (ex: t)
- Alveolar: right behind your teeth (ex: d s z)
- Post-alveolar: behind the alveolar ridge, usually sibilants (ex: dʒ)
- Palatal: ???
- Velar: far back in mouth (ex: kuh and guh)

Classifications

- Stops/plosives: PBTDKG (peanut butter toast doesn't kill germs)
- Nasal: m, n, ŋ
- Liquids: r, l

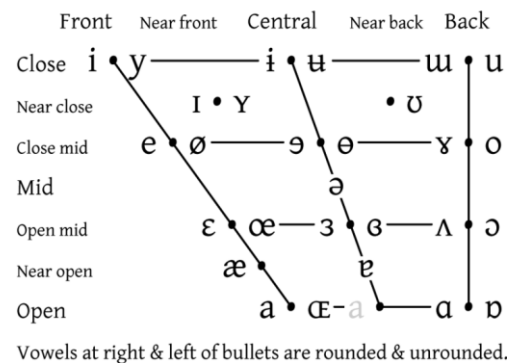
Vowels

- i – ee (as in need)
- I – ih (as in ring)
- e – eh (went)
- eI – ay (as in skate)
- ε – eh (epsilon)
- ɜ – eh/uh (as in nurse or her)
- æ – eh/ah (as in hand)
- ʌ – uh (as in love) – stressed
- ə – uh (as in mother) - unstressed
- ɑ – aw (as in father)
- a – ah (as in ahhhh idk this)
- ɔ – aw (as in not)
- u – oo (as in boot)
- o – oh (as in clothing) / or oo
- y - [i] pronounced with your lips rounded (non-English, sounds French)
- j – y
- ʊ – uh (as in book)
- aʊ – ow (as in out)



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VOWELS



Natural Classes

- height: top vs bottom of mouth
- backness: front vs back of mouth

- tenseness: amount of effort (must know it)
 - regular-looking vowels are tense, weird vowels are lax
- roundness: roundness of lips (French vowels sound round)
- voiced/voiceless

Solving Phonology Problems

- Steps:
 - 1) Look at similarities in each data set
 - 2) Establish roots/stems
 - 3) Look at changes to roots/stems and what might be causing them
 - 4) Test the rule to see if it works

Misc Phonology

- close means high and open means low
- a is further back, ʌ is further up
- **coronal**: uses flexible part of tongue (middle section of the IPA)
 - ex: s t ʃ θ
- **dorsal**: uses the blade of your tongue (right section of the IPA)
 - ex: k, g, etc
- **word finally**: at the end of a word
 - Obstruent --> - voice/ ___ # (obstruents devoice word finally)

Notes- Morphology

The Basics of Morphology

- Morphology: system of word formation
- Morpheme: smallest unit of meaning
- Words are words because of common usage, not the dictionary

Morphological Processes

- **Suffix**: addition to the end
- **Prefix**: addition to the beginning
- **Infix**: addition to the middle
 - Circumfixes: an infix in a specific environment
- **Reduplication**: part or all of a word is doubled
 - sometimes with phonological changes
- **Suppletion**: change to a completely different stem
 - ex: is → was or go → went
- **Compounding**: formally, a kind of prefixation but in actually, it just combines two independent words
 - ex: blackboard
- **0 Derivation**: change in grammatical category and meaning with no phonological change
 - “google” went from noun to verb
- **Reversative**: applies to something in order to undo an action or meaning
 - ex: “un”
- **Coercion**: forcing things into simpler/neighboring/applicable meanings
- **Recursive**: a rule can apply to its own output

Units of Morphology

- **Transitive verb**: a verb with an object
 - ex: “I placed the book”
- **Scalar adjectives**: adjectives that describe a point on or in a range
 - ex: happy

- **Binary adjectives**: adjectives that either apply fully or not at all
 - ex: true
- **Telic verb**: a verb that is a process with an end state
 - ex: build

Productivity

- **A productive process**: a process that applies to all words that fit the input description and the effect is predictable
 - ex: suffixation of /z/ in English to pluralize
- **Blocking effect**: if there is already a word for something, it's blocked from a process applying
- **Reproductive morphology**: cases where we can break things into morphemes BUT:
 - the semantic effect is not entirely predictable and/or
 - not all words in the relevant class allow this (exceptions)

The Wug Test

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- Jean Berko Gleason did it
- “This is a wug. Now there is another one.” → asks for plural word
- Kids knew to say “wugz”
- **steps of language acquisition**:
 - children first learn irregular forms as irregular (ex: go → went)
 - children overgeneralize (ex: go → goed)
 - they then retreat from overgeneralizing and relearn irregularities
 - the blocking effect is used

Parts of Morphological Rules

- **Three parts**:
 - formal part: actual rule
 - ex: suffixes
 - syntactic part: the grammatical categories
 - ex: -able makes a verb into an adjective

- semantic part: applications to word meanings

The case of “un”

- **Negative “un”**: as in lower on an adjective’s scale
 - ex: unhappy
- **Reversative “un”**: as in to reverse a verb’s action
 - ex: undo

Recursive Processes

- **Recursive processes**: a process that can apply to its own output
 - ex: rereredecorate or the reversative un

Misc Morphology

- **Agglutinative languages**: languages with very productive morphology
 - lots of suffixes and prefixes, packs lots of meaning into single words
 - Turkish is an example
- **Object incorporation**: incorporating an object into a verb
 - ex: deer hunt
- **Lingua franka**: someone’s second learned language
- **Agentive construction**: a noun that denotes the do-er of the action
- **Born**: created, not predictable

Notes- Syntax

The Basics of Syntax

- **Syntax**: how words combine to give larger phrases and how the phrases pair with meanings
- **Syntactic Categories**: grammatical categories like noun and verb
- **Distributional properties**: influences syntactic categories
- A “→” in a rule means “may consist of” or “can be”
- **Adj-bar**: adjectives with additional characterization/more than one word
 - Adj-bar → Adj

Phrase Structure Grammar

- **Phrase structure grammar**: a series of rules specifying how basic expressions of various categories combine to form larger expressions
 - like prefixes/suffixes together one before another
- if it's a PSG, you can always draw rule trees

Phrase Recursion

- Example of phrase recursion:
 - S1: Roses are red
 - S2: Violets are blue
 - S1 + S2: Roses are red and violets are blue (S3)
 - $S \rightarrow S \text{ and } S$ (a sentence may consist of sentences)

Verbs

- **Transitive verb**: a verb that happens to something
 - Ex: she places the book
- **Intransitive**: a verb with no object
 - Ex: she walks
- **Ditransitive verb**: a verb with 2 objects
 - ex: she walks the dog and the cat

Phrases

NP = noun phrase

- Noun phrase: words that collectively act as an object or subject
 - Ex: the big word
- it's a category

CP = complementizer phrase

- **complementizer**: words that can be used to turn a clause into the subject or object of a sentence
- For example, the word *that* may be called a complementizer in English sentences like *Mary believes **that** it is raining.*

PP = Prepositional phrase

- a modifying phrase consisting of a preposition and its object.
- At a minimum, a prepositional phrase consists of one preposition and the object it governs. The object can be a noun, a gerund (a verb form ending in “-ing” that acts as a noun), or a clause.
- Example: the cat **in the middle** is cute

VP Rules

- VP → V1 (often called IV: elapse, die, etc)
- VP → V2 NP (often called TV: devour the pizza, etc)
- VP → V3 NP NP (often called DTV: give the dog the bone, etc)
- VP → V4 NP PP (pit the book on the shelf, etc)
- Maybe **category labels themselves are actually feature bundles**
- They all have one feature ‘V’ but different subcategory features

Distributional Facts vs Meaning

- **Not all distributional facts seem to follow from meaning**
- Example: eat vs devour

- Eat can be a transitive verb (ex: I eat pizza) or a verb on its own (ex: I have to eat)
- Devour can be a transitive verb (ex: I devour pizza) but NOT a verb on its own (ex: I have to devour... no)
- Example: like vs dislike
 - Like can occur with infinitival VP complements (ex: I like to play poker), gerundive VPs (ex: I like playing poker), and NPs (ex: I like poker)
 - Dislike can't work with VP complements (ex: I dislike to play poker) but can work with gerundive VPs (ex: I dislike playing poker) and NPs (ex: I dislike poker)
- Not all facts about syntax follow from meaning

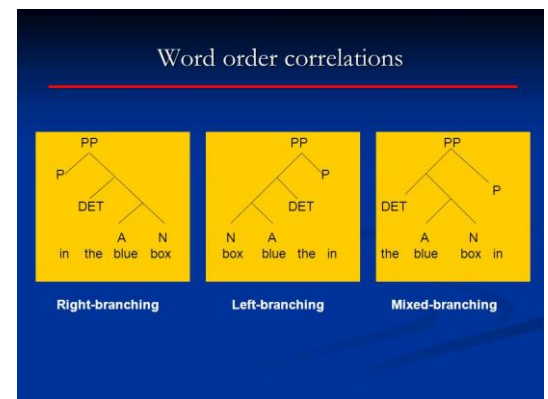
Complements + Arguments

- the things a verb combines with in the VP are **complements**
- complements and arguments are obligatory generally
 - Ex: I put the book ("the book" is needed for the verb)
- **Adjuncts**: a thing added to something else as a supplementary rather than an essential part.
 - they are optional
 - are recursive
 - used to amplify or modify the meaning of another word or words

Elaborating on English Recursion / Branching

- English is primarily right branching, meaning trees usually expand from the bottom right up to the left
- **"Right branching"**: something takes complements on the right, such as verbs because verb complements are put on their right
 - this is very common in English
 - VP → V S
 - Ex: "Sally said Lee thinks Mary **knows** Loki howls" can be expanded to "Sally said Lee thinks Mary **hopes Sandy knows** Loki howls"
 - S can be a complement of the right sorts of verbs

- since S itself can contain a VP with this same type of verb, we get these recursion chains
 - right daughter is expanded on (daughter being on of the things at the bottom of the triangle)
- “Left branching”: something takes complements on the left
 - $VP \rightarrow VP PP$
 - $N \rightarrow N RC$
 - In English, modifiers (Adjuncts) tend to follow what they modify (so recursion occurs on the left)
 - two exceptions: $Adj \rightarrow very\ Adj$ and $N \rightarrow Adj\ N$ lead to recursion on the right



- Center embedding
 - can also have recursion in the middle
 - ex: $a^n b^n$ with the rule $S \rightarrow a S A$
 - ex: mirror image languages
 - ex: $S \rightarrow \text{if } S \text{ then } S$
 - ex: “The rat ate the cheese.” \rightarrow modify rat with a relative clause: “The rat [that the cat chased] ate the cheese.”
 - You could not modify the relative clause, though. “The rat that the cat [that the dog loves] chased ate the cheese.”
- left and right are metaphors for temporality☺ because of course they are☺

PS grammars

- PS grammars CAN do mirror image languages
 - $a^n b^n$
- PS grammars CAN'T do copy languages

- $a^n b^n c^n$
- Essentially, no cross dependencies

Crossed dependencies

- there are instances of crossed dependencies in natural language
- classic case is Dutch embeds
- common in germanic languages

Rule Summary

- $S \rightarrow NP VP$
- $NP \rightarrow Det N$
- $Adj \rightarrow very Adj$
- $N \rightarrow Adj N$
- $N \rightarrow N RC$
- $PP \rightarrow P NP$

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Rules that can be on trees

- $S \rightarrow NP VP$
- $VP \rightarrow VP PP$
- $VP \rightarrow VP Adv$
- $VP \rightarrow TV NP$ (said)
- $VP \rightarrow DTV NP NP$ (gave)
- $VP \rightarrow SV S$ (believe, think, feel)
- $NP \rightarrow Det N$
- $PP \rightarrow P NP$
- $N \rightarrow Adj N$
- $N \rightarrow N PP$
- $N \rightarrow N RC$ (RC example: that is on the reading list)

Misc Syntax

- $X \rightarrow X Y$ or $X \rightarrow Y X$
 - ex: Adj \rightarrow very adj, N \rightarrow Adj N
- In syntax, there are layers
 - movement rule: there can be a tree for the underlying structure and one for the true meaning
 - ex: “I looked the information up” vs “I looked up the information”
- Center embedding: recursion in the middle of a sentence
- RC = relative clause
- triangles in trees avoid depicting internal structure
- If you can swap two things in a sentence, they are likely the same grammatical category
 - ex: taylor sees the rabbit \rightarrow taylor and “the rabbit” are both noun phrases

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Notes- Pragmatics**Gricean Maxims / Principles of cooperative conversation**

- **Quality:** “be truthful”
 - it is true to the best of your knowledge
 - Example of using:
 - Person A: “Why are you late?”
 - Person B: “I’m late because the laundry machines were broken.”
 - Example of breaking:
 - Person A: “You are so short.” (to a tall person)
 - OR
 - Person B: “Donald Trump is so young.”
- **Quantity:** “be as informative as possible” (up to what is necessary) and “don’t be overinformative”
 - first part → scalar implicatures (ex: “warm” = “not hot”)
 - requires computation of competing utterances
 - Example of using:
 - Person A: “Hey, how are you doing?”
 - Person B: “Well it all started when I was 7...” *insert whole monologue about life story*
 - Example of breaking:
 - Person A: “Go pick up the vegetarian tomatoes.”
 - OR “Clean up that sticky glue you just spilled.”
- **Relevance:** “be relevant”
 - Example of using:
 - Person A: “I want to go get hot chocolate tonight”
 - Person B: “I have a paper due”
 - Example of breaking:
 - Person A: “Is it rainy out?”

1	Quantity	Make your contribution as informative as required (do not be under-informative) Do not make your contribution more informative than is required (do not be over-informative) <i>Example of flouting the maxim of Quantity:</i> <i>Person 1: "Where did you go yesterday?"</i> <i>Person 2: "Somewhere on this earth."</i>
2	Quality	Do not say what you believe to be false Do not say what you lack adequate evidence for <i>Example of flouting the maxim of Quality:</i> <i>(The weather is stormy and bad outside)</i> <i>Person 1: "Nice weather."</i> Be relevant
3	Relation	<i>Example of flouting the maxim of Relation:</i> <i>Person 1: "Do you love me?"</i> <i>Person 2: "I think we should order pizza tonight."</i>
4	Manner	Avoid obscurity of expression Avoid ambiguity Be orderly <i>Example of flouting the maxim of Manner (from Attardo 1994, 272):</i> <i>Person 1: "Do you believe in clubs for young people?"</i> <i>Person 2: "Only when kindness fails" (attributed to W.C. Fields)</i>

- Person B: “I like the color grey.”
- **Manner**: don’t say things weirdly/out of order
 - “most of the time when you flout Grice’s Maxim of Manner (be brief but unambiguous), you create an implicature about something else.”
 - Example of using:
 - Person A: “Last night I ate chicken, did homework, and watched TV.”
 - Person B: *assumes it took place in that order*
 - Example of breaking:
 - Person A: “Yesterday, I ate dinner, did laundry, and went out to lunch.”

Scalar Implicatures

- **scalar implicatures**: an implicature that attributes an implicit meaning beyond the explicit or literal meaning of an utterance
 - ex: “warm” = “not hot”
 - requires computation of competing utterances

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The case of “some”

- Ex 1: Jack says “How are your classes?” and Jill says “Some of them are really interesting.”
 - If Jack is rational, he will assume that not all of Jill’s classes are interesting to her
 - $[[\text{some}]] = A \text{ B if and only if } A \cap B \neq \emptyset \text{ and } A \not\subseteq B \dots$ but this isn’t the only meaning
- Ex 2: Jack says “How are your classes?” and Jill says “Some but not all of my courses are interesting.” (or “Some of my courses are interesting but not all”)
 - No feeling of redundancy even though “some” includes the meaning of “not all”
 - Test of re-enforceability
- Some = ambiguous ??
 - some1 / excSome = some and not all
 - some2 / incSome = at least some (possibly all)
 - Cancellation or reinforcing (like ex2) would be some2, the exclusive one (like ex1) would be some1

- The unlikelihood of ambiguity
 - Doesn't explain Jill's original response always being understood as exclusive without additional context – would theoretically be ambiguous if the word is
 - We would need the same ambiguity with many, most, or, etc
 - All languages with words like this would have the same accidental homophony
 - The exclusive reading systematically goes away in certain contexts (for instance in contexts where the exclusive reading is plausible but absent)
 - ex: "In order to enroll in the course, you must have studied 2 years of some language offered at Purple U."
 - We read this to mean "some" as in at least one but if you read it as only one, a student might have studied more than one and wouldn't be allowed in.
- Means an amount, does not mean "not all"
- Ex: "Every student who handed in some of the homeworks passed the course." – This includes students that did all of the homeworks, making it clear that "some" doesn't mean "not all"

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The case of "or"

- A or B
 - exclusive or: A and B are mutually exclusive
 - inclusive or:
- Ex: "Lee is going to Hawaii or to Paris"
 - reinforceable without redundancy: "Lee is going to Hawaii or to Paris but not both" shows that if "or" meant not both, it would be redundant
- Ex: In a prix fixe menu: "For desert you can have the flan or the chocolate cake..."
 - "...but not both." (no feeling of redundancy)
 - "...tonight is special, though, so you can have both" (no contradiction)
 - ^^ the above two additions show the meaning is not built into "or"
- "Or" is not actually ambiguous
- "Or" implicates that the "and" case is not true because the "and" case is stronger
- "Or" implicates not

- “And/or” means the same as “or” because “or” doesn’t mean that they are mutually exclusive

The case of “either”

- Same as “either” – either has an stronger exclusive feel but doesn’t always have to be
- Ex: “If you’ve eaten either all your peas or all your carrots you may have dessert.” – doesn’t mean you can only have dessert if you had just one or the other

The case of “if/then”

- The same as “every”
- $[[\text{if } S1 \text{ then } S2]] = 1$ if in all situations where $[[S1]] = 1$ then $[[S2]] = 1$
 - S1 situations are a subset of S2 situations
- Ex: If you climb the mountain, you will see sleet. // Every person who climbs the mountain will see sleet.
 - They mean the same thing

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Environments

- Under “every”
 - Ex: Every student who handed in some of the homework passed.
 - Doesn’t exclude those who handed in all of it
- Under “no”
 - Ex: No one who hands in some of the homeworks will fail the course.
 - those who hand in all are still guaranteed to pass
 - Ex: No one who passed either the midterm or the final failed the course.
 - Xor implicature is not there—people who passed both can still pass

Simple reversal under negation

- Ex: “Not everyone left the party at midnight.” implies “Some people left the party at midnight.”
 - It implies but not entails. We know that because we can add to the sentence and make it change the meaning while maintaining truth value.

- If it's not true that no one left, some had to have left
- “Every” under a “not” = “some” / some = not every (???)

Classifying sentences

- Entailment vs implicature
 - **entailment**: definitely means something else
 - **presupposition**: type of entailment where a thing is assumed beforehand
 - ex: “My Ferrari is red” presupposes “I have a Ferrari”
 - test with “hey wait?”
 - **at-issue**: if A is true, then B is also true
 - can't be cancelled without sounding dumb
 - **implicature**: seems to mean something
 - cancellable/reinforceable
 - maxims
- Simple alt explanation
 - Entailment = “includes the fact that:”
 - Ex: I ate apples and bananas → I ate apples
 - can't be restated without being redundant
 - Presupposition = “relies on this fact being true:”
 - Ex: “I went to Disney last week” → Disney was open last week
 - Implicature = “gives us the idea that:”
 - Ex: “I ate 3 cinnamon rolls.” → I only ate 3 cinnamon rolls
 - can be cancelled
 - sentence 2 can be repeated without being redundant

Symbols

- \subseteq = subset
- $\not\subseteq$ = not a subset
- \cap = intersection between 2 sets
- # = deviant

Sentence Strength

- If A entails B, A is stronger
- Stronger = more info, harder to be true (aka truer in less scenarios)
- Temporal window = specific time in which a meaning is understood to be true
 - If there is a smaller temporal window, the sentence is stronger
- “Ever” is only allowed when it strengthens a sentence
 - Ex: “Mitka ever ate” = not a good sentence because it doesn’t add anything
- Downward entailing environments – strength is reversed
- Implicatures disappear in downward entailing environments because DE environments reverse strength
- Gricean story: If there is a competing utterance which is stronger and that utterance is not said, there has to be a reason it wasn’t said
 - Stronger = gives more info

Misc Pragmatics

- If A entails B then not B entails not A
- Usually the “and” sentence entails the “or” but not always

Notes- Semantics

Structural Ambiguity

Structural ambiguity = different meanings of a sentence depending on how you construct it

- Ex: “I saw the spy with the binoculars”
 - N attachment: “with the binoculars” attaches to “spy”, modifying that noun to mean the spy has the binoculars
 - VP attachment: “with the binoculars” attaches to “saw the spy” and modifies that VP

How semantics works

- Assume simpler view with PS rules, meaning any well-formed expression can be a tree
 - tree just represents how syntax proves something well-formed: each PS rule is paired with a semantic rules
- Sense vs reference
 - **reference**: what is picked out from the actual world
 - **sense**: meaning = the recipe for going from way the world might be to the individual (what you imagine, basically)
 - if you were omniscient, you would know what it really means
 - NPs can pick out the same individual but the meaning/context is different
 - ex: “the tallest man in the world right now” – we know what it means but not who it is referencing
 - VPs pick out sets of individuals
 - ex: dance is a subset of move because all dancers move
- Sentences
 - they tell us something about the world and are thus either true or false
 - we can say that their referent (or extension) is a truth value
 - set if truth values {true, false} or {1,0}
 - intension: a set of ways the world might be
- Internal structure of NPs
 - “dog” = a set of individuals vs “a dog” = an individual

- “disobedient husky” = intersection of [[disobedient]] and [[husky]]
 - $N \rightarrow \text{Adj } N$
- Adjectives
 - not all adjectives intersect with nouns
 - ex: “the big flea” vs “the big elephant” shows that “big” means different things: they are **subjective adjectives**
 - size is always relative but need not be determined by the noun
 - **relative/subjective adjectives**
 - uses comparison classes

Picking it out

- NPs- proper names, pronouns, and things pick out individuals
- VPs pick out sets
- Ss pick out truth values

Truth values

- Opinions have a truth value based on subjective parameters
- Things are true or false with reference to a judge or a subject
- **Sentences pick out truth values**
- **0 = false, 1 = true**
- $S1 \rightarrow S2 \text{ and } S3$
 - $[[S1]] = 1$ if and only if $[[S2]] = 1$ and $[[S3]] = 1$
 - not circular—distinguish between object language vs metalanguage
- $S1 \rightarrow S2 \text{ or } S3$
 - $[[S1]] = 0$ if and only if $[[S2]] = 0$ and $[[S3]] = 0$
 - In prose: S1 is false if both S2 and S3 are false, otherwise it is true

Relative clauses

- Relative clauses can modify N
- $N \rightarrow N \text{ RC}$
- Recursive rule because RC is a modifier/adjunct (same thing)

Determiners

- “the” and “my” are examples of determiners
- determiners take a set and picks out the unique or most salient member of the set
 - the relevant individual of a set
 - ex: [[husky]] is a set and [[the husky]] is an individual
- NP → Det N, Det → the, some, every, many, few
 - complex determiner ex: at least three
 - **quantificational determiners** = determiners that specify an amount (such as few)

Domain restriction

- the final output of the linguistic system is usually underspecified and pragmatics come into play to give the final message
 - **literal meaning**: where the semantics leaves off
 - **final message**: interaction with the literal meaning, context, communication, etc
- ex: my dog ate breakfast → means that the dog ate breakfast today
- If the domain is widened, it has to also strengthen the sentence
 - adapted from Kadmon and Landman, 1993

Negative Polarity Items

- words that only work in a negative sentence
 - negative sentence makes a restriction
- Seemingly odd distribution
- ex: any, ever, lift a finger, drink a drop, budge a single inch, give a hoot
 - they are idiomatic
 - they always occur with negatives
- **minimizers are a subclass of negative polarity items**
- “no” = empty intersection between phrases
 - ex: “no husky howls” = huskies don’t howl and howlers don’t include huskies
- “every” = implies a subset
 - ex: “every husky howls” = huskies are a subset of the howler set

Upward entailing position

- preserves the relation of semantic strength among a set of expressions (maintains truth value)
- smaller to bigger
- switching it to a superset allows it to preserve truth
- ex: “some husky howled” → “some husky made noise”
 - VP position is upward entailing
 - doesn’t work the other way because it shrinks the possibilities
- ex: “some husky howled” → “some dog howled”
 - N position is upward entailing
 - doesn’t work the other way because it shrinks the possibilities
- the “→” should be able to translate to (“could lead us to reasonably believe that”)

Downward entailing position

- the opposite of upward-entailing: limits the range of possibilities by going from bigger to smaller
- more common in negative sentences
- a subset subs in and doesn’t guarantee the preservation of truth
- Example
 - “every dog made noise” → “every husky made noise”
 - “Lee didn’t move” → “Lee didn’t dance”
- “didn’t VP” - picks out the complement
- the “→” should be able to translate to (“does not necessarily mean that”)
- Downward entailing environments are environments where strength/info content is reversed
 - Ex: “some husky howled” is stronger than “some dog howled” or “some husky made noise”
 - no dog > no husky | every dog > every husky

Past tense and negation

- Restricts the domain
 - within a relevant time interval, X did/didn't happen
 - In the below example, it's saying that "recently, I didn't turn off the stove" where "recently" likely means that day
- Ex: "Uh oh. I didn't turn off the stove."
 - Meaning 1: It's not the case that there is a past time where I turned off the stove
 - not correct semantics
 - Meaning 2: There is a specific relevant time where I didn't turn off the stove
 - translation: there is a past time t where it's not the case that I turned off the stove
- Ex: "I haven't had breakfast"
 - Meaning 1: I have never in my life had breakfast
 - Meaning 2: I didn't eat breakfast today
 - Today is the interval it was restricted to

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"Ever"

- Widens the interval – broadens the domain of times under consideration
- Ex: "I haven't eaten breakfast" means no breakfast today → "I haven't ever eaten breakfast" means no breakfast at any point in life
 - widened the temporal window
- If "ever" weakens the sentence or doesn't add, it's a bad sentence
 - Ex: I have eaten breakfast → I have ever eaten breakfast (bad sentence because it's a negative polarity item added to a positive sentence)

Semantics and syntactic categories

- NPs -- pick out individuals (references)
- VPs -- pick out sets
- Adj -- pick out sets
- Ss -- pick out truth values
 - $S \rightarrow NP VP$, so $[[S]] = 1$ if and only if $[[NP]]$ is a member of $[[VP]]$

Misc Semantics

- double brackets = meaning/reference
- **metalanguage** = language used to describe the semantics, which also happens to be in English
- “Every” is bad in VPs and good in the NPs (?)
- “Exactly 3” and similar things are not upward or downward entailing
- “not” reverses the entailing patterns
- If (a) is true, (b) is true $\rightarrow a > b$
- **lexical semantics:** words combining to create meaning
- **compositional semantics:** phrases combining to create meaning
- https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MGVOiaXh0dsb83pNqjv_vAE39oYj4zVFSfwdAHAsYII/edit?usp=sharing

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Notes- Linguistic Relativity

The Basics

- **Linguistic relativity**: one's native language influences the way people think
- Linguistic relativity is aka the Sapir-Wharf hypothesis

Problems with the theory

- What does it mean by think?
 - Categorize? Perceive? Remember? Notice?
- Translation mistakes – seeing one language through the lens of the other
 - Negative Concord dialects – double negatives is just one negative spread out with a marker (ex: “I didn’t see nothing” = I didn’t see anything)
- Vocabulary differences do not always mean thought differences
 - There’s the myth about there being hundreds of Eskimo words for snow
- It’s more about culture than language
 - Many languages don’t use ego-oriented (based on people) directions like left/right but rather, use cardinal directions
- If your language forces you to make certain distinctions do you think about them differently?
 - Ex: Would a Chinese speaker be more aware of sibling ages than an English speaker?
 - Ex 2: Would a dual language speaker be more aware of two vs three objects?
 - Dual language = a language with words meaning two (like pair, couple, duo, etc)
- Do speakers of path languages vs manner languages see motion differently?
 - Speakers of path languages are forced to encode path
 - Ex: The snake slithered → The snake slithered through the garden
 - Manner is optional for path languages
 - English generally has both
 - Tests were performed with 3 conditions:
 - linguistic encoding – asked to describe the event

- free encoding – could think about whatever they wanted
- blocking of linguistic encoding – used shadowing to make sure they couldn't be thinking about it linguistically (repeating nonsense syllables)
- The only difference in testing was that Spanish speakers were more attuned to the path and English speakers were more focused on manner

Conclusion on linguistic relativity

- The different linguistic patterns do play a role when speakers definitely encode the events linguistically
- There are no deep perceptual differences: speakers are not always attuned to seeing path vs manner since in free encoding and shadowing conditions, there were no effects of the language

Evidentials

- Many languages require verbs in main clause declaratives to be marked with a marker (like as suffix) that specifies the source of evidence
 - Do speakers of such languages pay more attention to the source of evidence?
- Some languages distinguish direct vs indirect evidence
 - Ex: Quechua in Peruvian Andes
- For languages which mark direct evidence, occasionally visual evidence is marked differently
 - so there is direct visual and direct other
- Often, direct evidence is bit explicitly marked, indirect evidence is
- Direct evidence: personal experience/knowledge
- Indirect evidence: inferential or reportative

Notes- Language Change and History

Why languages change

- Contact with other languages → borrowing
 - languages borrow whole sounds or sound sequences → can change the phonological systems
 - can also have syntactic borrowings
 - Ex: English borrowed Romance syntax
 - Norman Conquest → Old French became widely spoken amongst nobility and influence spread throughout English
 - as different groups spread, so do their languages
- Cases of internal instability
 - Similarly- changes can cause some parts to have irregularities which can then regularize over time
- Language play
 - ex: teen slang
 - users are conscious of the language play but not necessarily aware of what is being manipulated and its regularity

Velar Softening

- K --- S / V ___ V
 - certain forms in modern English
 - ex: public → publicity, critic → criticism, medic → medicine
 - productive phonological rule restricted to a small domain of cases

Grim's Law

- Proto-Indo-European sound rule about how PIE sounds translate to Proto-Germanic sounds
- “unvoiced IE stops became Germanic unvoiced continuants, that voiced IE stops became Germanic unvoiced stops, and that unvoiced IE continuants became Germanic voiced stops”

- PIE voiceless stops became corresponding voiceless fricatives in proto-Germanic
- The changes:
 - p in PIE → f in Germanic
 - t in PIE → θ in Germanic (thuh)
 - k in PIE → x in Germanic → h
 - b in PIE → p in Germanic (?)
 - d in PIE → t in Germanic
 - g in PIE → k in Germanic
- PIE voiced stops became voiceless and affects the whole class
- Ex: dental → tooth

The Great Vowel Shift

- Roughly 1350-1600, many vowels shifted to other vowels but not in all positions
- Happened gradually
- Shifts:
 - High vowels → corresponding diphthongs
 - Mid (tensed) vowels → corresponding high vowels
 - a → e
 - a = the ah sound became ay (ex. “make”)
 - e = the eh sound became ee (“we”)
 - i = the ee sound became eye (“night”)
 - o = the oh sound of some words became oo (“boot”)
 - o = the aw sound of some words became oh (“boat”)
 - u = the oo sound of some words became ow (“out”)
- Chaucer is pre-shift, Shakespeare is post-shift

Word	Vowel pronunciation	
	Late Middle English before the GVS	Modern English after the GVS
bite	/i:/	/aɪ/
meet	/e:/	/i:/
meat	/ɛ:/	
mate	/a:/	/eɪ/
out	/u:/	/aʊ/
boot	/o:/	/u:/
boat	/ɔ:/	/oʊ/

ME		1300	1400	1500	1600	1700	ModE					
[i:]	<i>rise(n)</i>	→	[ii]	→	[ʌi]	→	[aɪ]	<i>rise</i>				
[u:]	<i>mouth</i>	→	[ʊu]	→	[ʌu]	→	[aʊ]	<i>mouth</i>				
[e:]	<i>feet</i>			→	[i:]	→	[i:]	<i>feet</i>				
[o:]	<i>goos</i>			→	[u:]	→	[u:]	<i>goose</i>				
[ɛ:]	<i>beeme</i>				→	[e:]	→	[i:]	<i>beam</i>			
[ɔ:]	<i>ston</i>				→	[o:]	→	[ou]	→	[əʊ]	<i>stone</i>	
[a:]	<i>name</i>			→	[æ:]	→	[ɛ:]	→	[e:]	→	[eɪ]	<i>name</i>

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