Sentence analysis

Lecture 3.

1. Syntactic relations in a simple sentence. Morphologic vs. syntactic analyses.
2. Syntactic and semantic analyses.
3. Traditional syntactic divisions of the sentence.
4. Theory of the three ranks.
5. IC analysis.
6. Actual division of the sentence.

Sentence Pattern = atomic sentence = kernel sentence

- Elementary structure of a simple sentence based on the valence of the verb which remains after elimination of all structurally unnecessary (optional) elements.

Syntactic	Morphological
• S + P	• N + V *(I think.)*
• S + P + O$_{dir}$	• N + V + N *(I see the dog.)*
• S + P + O$_{indir}$ + O$_{dir}$	• N + V + N + N *(I give the dog a bone.)*

Sentence Pattern = atomic sentence = kernel sentence

Syntactic <u>relations</u> in phrases

1. Predicative
2. Attributive
3. Objective
4. Adverbial

completive

- *I see;*
- *the night being cold*
- *happy meals*
- *closed the window*
- *to move noiselessly*

Syntactical connections in the sentence

1. Predicative

2. Objective
3. Attributive
4. Adverbial
5. Parenthetical (introductory)
6. Secondary predicative

- *Frankly, I read this story in the morning paper.*

- *I find the story very exciting.*

Syntactic division

Semantic (nominative) division

- Parts of the sentence
  - **Predicate**
  - **main**
  - **Subject**
  - **bilateral**
  - **dependency/ interdependence**
  - **Secondary**
  - Objects
  - Adverbial modifiers
  - Objective predicative
  - Independent?
  - Parenthesis

- Semantic roles (components)
  - Predicate (action)
  - Agent
  - (Semantic) Object
  - Recipient
  - Circumstances
    - Time
    - Place

I gave him the book yesterday.

Syntactic division	Semantic (nominative) division

- **Parts of the sentence**
  - Predicate
  - Subject
  - Objects
  - Adverbial modifiers

- **Semantic roles (components)**
  - Predicate (action)
  - Agent
  - (Semantic) Object
  - Recipient
  - Circumstances
    - Time
    - Place

Syntactic division	Semantic (nominative) division
● Parts of the sentence 　◦ Predicate 　◦ Subject 　◦ Objects 　◦ Adverbial modifiers	● Semantic roles (components) 　◦ Predicate (action) 　◦ Agent 　◦ (Semantic) Object 　◦ Recipient 　◦ Circumstances 　　● Time 　　● Place

I gave him the book yesterday.

Syntactic division	Semantic (nominative) division

- Parts of the sentence
  ◦ Predicate
  ◦ Subject
  ◦ Objects
  ◦ Adverbial modifiers

- Semantic roles (components)
  ◦ Predicate (action)
  ◦ Agent
  ◦ (Semantic) Object
  ◦ Recipient
  ◦ Circumstances
    • Time
    • Place

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Syntactic division	Semantic (nominative) division

● **Parts of the sentence**
 ◦ Predicate
 ◦ Subject
 ◦ Objects
    ● Direct object
    ● Indirect object
 ◦ Adverbial modifiers
	● **Semantic roles (components)**
	 ◦ Predicate (action)
	 ◦ Agent
	 ◦ (Semantic) Object
	 ◦ Recipient
	 ◦ Circumstances
	    ● Time
	    ● Place

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Syntactic division	Semantic (nominative) division
● **Parts of the sentence**	● **Semantic roles (components)**
◦ Predicate	◦ Predicate (action)
◦ Subject	◦ Agent
◦ Objects	◦ (Semantic) Object
● Direct object	◦ Recipient
● Indirect object	◦ Circumstances
◦ Adverbial modifiers	● Time
	● Place

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Syntactic division	Semantic (nominative) division

- **Parts of the sentence**
  - ◦ Predicate
  - ◦ Subject
  - ◦ Objects
  - ◦ Adverbial modifiers

- **Semantic roles (components)**
  - ◦ Predicate (action))
  - ◦ Agent
  - ◦ (Semantic) Object
  - ◦ Recipient
  - ◦ Circumstances
    - Time
    - Place

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Syntactic division	Semantic (nominative) division

- **Parts of the sentence**
  - Predicate
  - Subject
  - Objects
  - Adverbial modifiers

- **Semantic roles (components)**
  - Predicate (action)
  - Agent
  - (Semantic) Object
  - Recipient
  - Circumstances
    - Time
    - Place

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Syntactic division	Semantic (nominative) division
● Parts of the sentence	● Semantic roles (components)
◦ Predicate	◦ Predicate (action)
◦ Subject	◦ Agent
◦ Objects	◦ (Semantic) Object
◦ Adverbial modifiers	◦ Recipient
	◦ Circumstances
	● Time
	● Place

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Syntactic division	Semantic (nominative) division

- Parts of the sentence
  - Predicate
  - Subject
  - Objects
  - Adverbial modifiers

- Semantic roles (components)
  - Predicate (action)
  - Agent
  - (Semantic) Object
  - Recipient
  - Circumstances
    - Time
    - Place

I gave him the book yesterday.

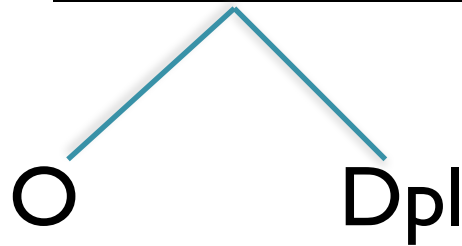| Syntactic division	Semantic (nominative) division

● Parts of the sentence
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	  ◦ (Semantic) Object
	  ◦ Recipient
	  ◦ Circumstances
	    ● Time
	    ● Place

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Types of syntactic analysis

- Traditional (mentalistic approach based on considering semantic relationships of the constituents)
- Theory of the three ranks by O.Jespersen
- Immediate Constituents (Am. structuralism) (mechanistic approach based on syntactic relations only)

Criticism of the traditional parts of the sentence

- Logical origin
- Focus on meaning rather than form
- No rigid criteria for secondary parts of the sentence; a lot of intermediary cases

(*I put it <u>on the table.</u>*) (A.Peshkovsky)

O   Dpl

Criteria for singling out parts of the sentence

1. Semantic: general meaning
2. Morphological: grammatical form (part of speech)
3. Syntactical connection and position

Subject

- Main syntactic function
- Not dependent on any other part of the sentence
- In English, marked
  - morphologically (Common / Nominative Case)
  - positionally (initial)
  - structurally (□ agreement with P)
- Semantic role: agent + other roles

Semantic Types of Subject

definite
- *Fleur* smiled.
- *Loving* is forgiving.

indefinite
- *You* never can tell.
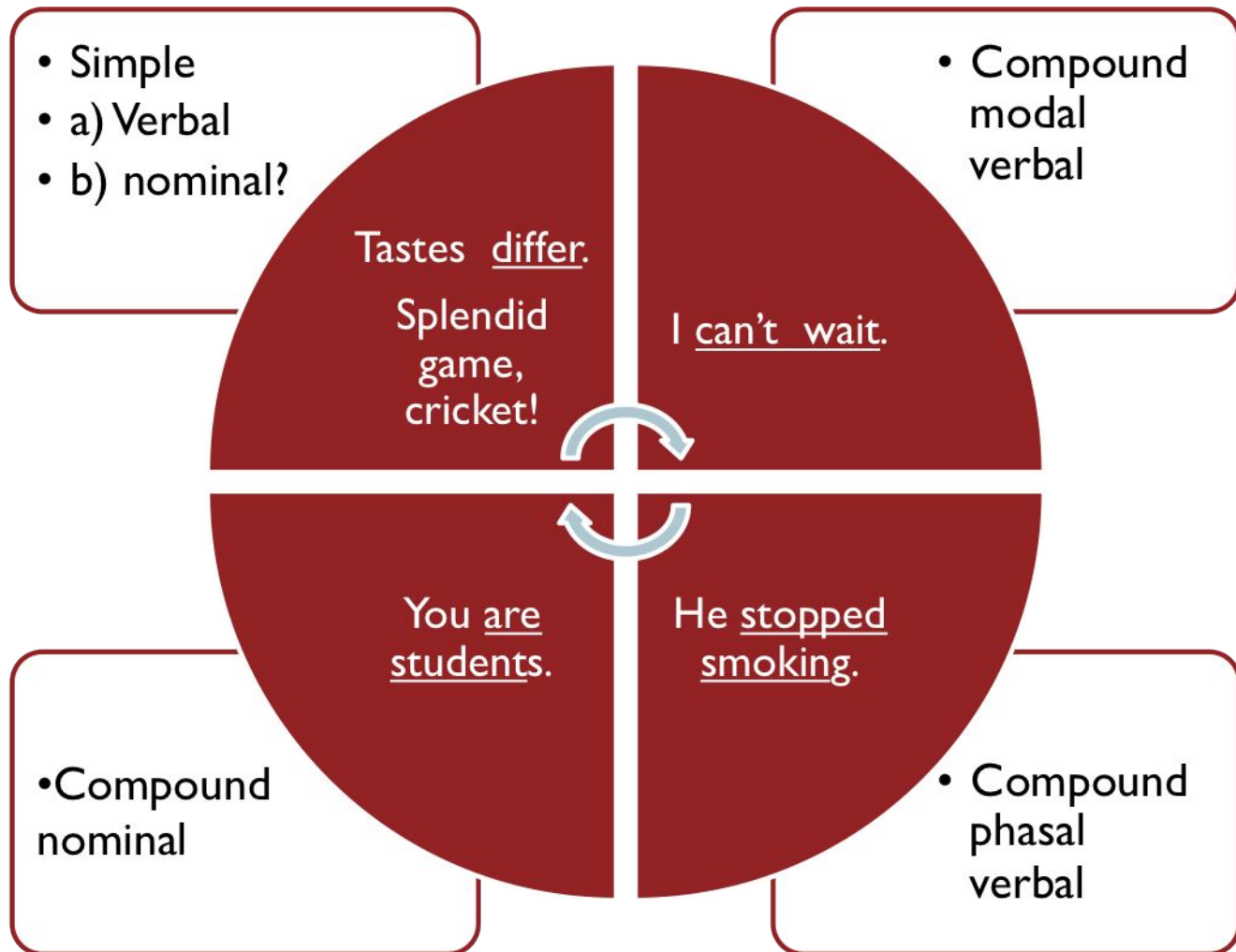- *They* say.
- *One* cannot be too careful.

dummy
- *It* was rather cold.
- *There* were no seats at all.

Predicate

- Main syntactic function
- Action, process, state
- Verb / link (copular) verb + predicative
- Linked to the S through agreement
- Determines the number and kind of obligatory complements
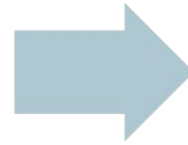- Position depends on the sentence type (VS? SV.)

Types of predicate

- Simple
- a) Verbal
- b) nominal?

- Compound modal verbal

- Compound nominal

- Compound phasal verbal

Tastes <u>differ</u>.

Splendid game, cricket!

I <u>can't wait</u>.

You <u>are students</u>.

He <u>stopped smoking</u>.

Compound nominal predicate (verb complement)

link verb (copula)

- be
- get
- become
- feel
- taste
- smell

→

predicative

- nice
- good
- delicious
- tired
- a person
- a thing

Double predicate
? V = P + link

- *He <u>came</u> home <u>tired</u>.*
- *She <u>married</u> <u>young</u>.*

- *He <u>was tired</u> when he <u>came</u> home.*
- *She <u>was young</u> when she <u>married</u>.*

Objective Predicative / Complement

- A secondary part of the sentence
- Expresses state or feature of an object
- Double link – with the O and VP
- Part of Complex Object.
- *I found Bergson good to read.*

Dispute

- *We <u>shall do </u>it tomorrow.*
- simple verbal predicate.

- Modal verb: *The right of ownership for the goods <u>shall pass </u>from the Seller to the Buyer…*
- Compound verbal predicate?
- Different meanings => different functions:
- *He grew potatoes. – He grew old.*

Dispute:

- *I began <u>to laugh</u>.*
  - Foreign linguists: object.
  - Russian linguists: part of a compound verbal (phasal) predicate

  - *I began my work.*
  - *?*

Dispute

- *He <u>made a mistake.</u>*
- *She <u>took a glance.</u>*

1. Phraseological unit: predicate.
2. Predicate + complement?

Lexicology is irrelevant for syntactic analysis: P O.

Object

- A secondary syntactic function

- Oblique case

- Position: V+ O

- Objective link through adjoining or government? (*I looked at her / *she*).

- Denotes a thing or state of affairs which is affected by the event denoted by the verb.

Complement

- Nominal phrase
- Co-referential with the subject or object
- Follows the S, VP, or O
- Does not become S through the passive transformation.
- *He made her career <u>a success</u>.*

Object

- Nominal phrase

- Follows the S and VP
- By the passive transformation, assumes the status of S.
- *He made her <u>career</u>.*

Foreign linguistics
(R.Quirk, S.Greenbaum, G. Leech, J.Svartvik)

Types of object

Direct O_1	Indirect O_2	Prepositional O_3
• I read <u>a book.</u>	• I read <u>him </u>a book. • I read a book <u>to him.</u>	• I am confident <u>of it.</u> • I rely <u>on this book.</u>

Direct or indirect object?

- *He told <u>me</u> the whole story.*
- *She taught <u>the children</u> mathematics.*
- *We'll help <u>our friends </u>to do it.*

- *He told <u>me</u> about it.*
- *She taught <u>children</u>.*
- *We'll help <u>our friends</u>.*

O$_3$ or O$_1$?

- *We spoke <u>about recent events.</u>*
- *We bought <u>about ten books</u>.*

Attribute

- A secondary syntactic function
- Modifies a nominal head
- Expressed by Adj / N *(stone wall) +* Num, V *(a book to read)*
- pre-position or post-position *(books interesting to everyone)*
- Attributive connection through adjoining, rarely – agreement *(these books)*
- Characterize, qualify, or identify persons or things

Semantic function:

- predication

- *A beautiful flower*
- *The flower is beautiful.*

Dispute:

- Part of a phrase or sentence?
- Lower rank, not depending on a predicate
- *Hasty climbers have sudden falls. ☐ Climbers have falls.*
- *My house is my castle. ☐ House is castle.*

Specifics of English attribute

- The proximity rule:
- *Children playing* in the yard
- **Playing* in the yard *children*

Attribute or Object?

- *The gloom <u>of winter twilight </u>closed about her.*

Apposition - приложение

- Optional constituent of a noun phrase which agrees referentially with the nominal head:
- *Aunt Polly, Mr. Smith, President Obama;*
- *Lake Ontario, Oxford University*
- *Philip, my best friend.*
- Typically nouns.
- Additional characteristics, specification.
- Dispute: distinct part of the sentence or type of attribute?

Adverbial modifier (adjunct)

- A secondary syntactic function
- Characteristics of the action, circumstances
- Modifies the V (or Adj, Adv)
- Expressed by an Adv or prep+N
- Adverbial connection through adjoining, often prepositional or conjunctive *(if possible)*
- Optional element of the sentence

Semantic types of Adverbial Modifiers

- Time (*It happened yesterday.*)
- Place (*He was working in the garden.*)
- Manner (*The machine worked properly.*)
- Attending circumstances (*She spoke crying.*)
- Subsequent event (*He went to Africa to die there.*)
- Degree and measure (*She felt extremely nervous.*)
- Reason (*We stopped because of being tired.*)
- Purpose (*The room was used for dancing.*)
- Condition (*If found, the secret will be publicized.*)
- Result (*He is too old to be elected.*)
- Concession (*Though a grandmother, she didn't look old.*)

State the type of AdM

- He went down *sometimes to work in his garden.*
- He ate *greedily.*
- *Lying* sleepless in his room he would think about it.
- I was old enough *to understand* it.
- *Unwilling* to go back to he hotel, he went to the theater.
- *But for your help,* I'd have failed.
- *In spite of the rain,* there were a lot of people outside.

Object or Adverbial modifier?

- *He walks <u>the streets of London</u>.*
- *I put it <u>on the table</u>.*
- *Wait <u>a minute</u>.*
- *I was glad <u>to see him</u>.*

Predicative or Adverbial modifier?

- *They are <u>in London</u>.*

- A.Smirnitsky: adverbial predicate.

Parenthesis

- Dispute: a) not included in a sentence as a constituent = loose part

- b) detached part of a sentence (V. Zhigadlo, L.Iofic, I.Ivanova):
  - Gr. meaning: speaker's attitude towards the content;
  - Specific gr. connection that facilitates formal inclusion of the P. into the sentence
  - Morphological form: modal words *(Perhaps, you are right)* + adv., inf. …

Structural classification of parts of the sentence

Simple
простой

- He is smiling.
- I took a book.

Compound
составной

- He is a sportsman.
- I must go.

Complex
сложный

- (I heard) the door slam.
- My son being unwell, (I had to stay home).

- Complex parts of the sentence make a specific feature of English syntax:

- Complex Subject: *He was known to have been there.*
- Complex Object: *I saw her enter the house.*
- Complex Attribute *: This is a book for you to read.*

Structural classification of parts of the sentence

non-expanded
- Without dependent elements
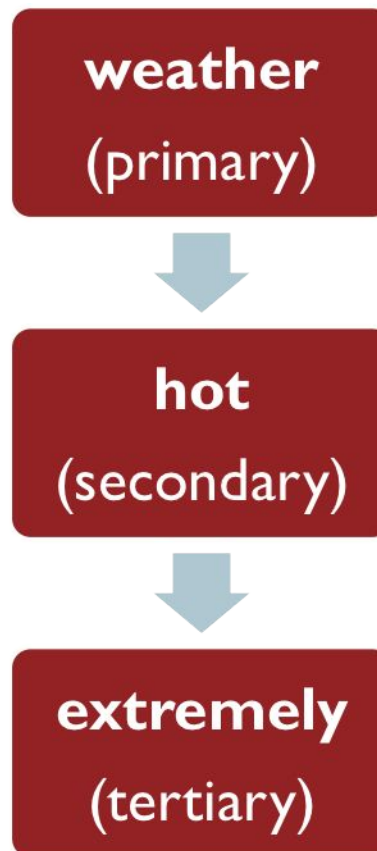- I took <u>a</u> book.

expanded
- With dependent elements
- I took <u>a very colourful book</u>.

Theory of the three ranks (Otto Jespersen 1937)

- *Extremely hot weather*

weather
(primary)

↓

hot
(secondary)

↓

extremely
(tertiary)

a furiously barking dog =
a dog barking furiously

Junction vs. nexus

- Nexus: *a dog barking… => a dog barks*
- Junction: *extremely hot weather*

- In the junction, the joining of elements is so close that they might be considered one composite name: *a silly person = a fool*
- The nexus, a syntactic type of predicative joining, forms a sentence (clause).

Nexus

- *The **dog barks** (at the neighbors).*
- *(I hear) **the dog bark**.*
- ***The dog's barking** (was heard all over the place).*
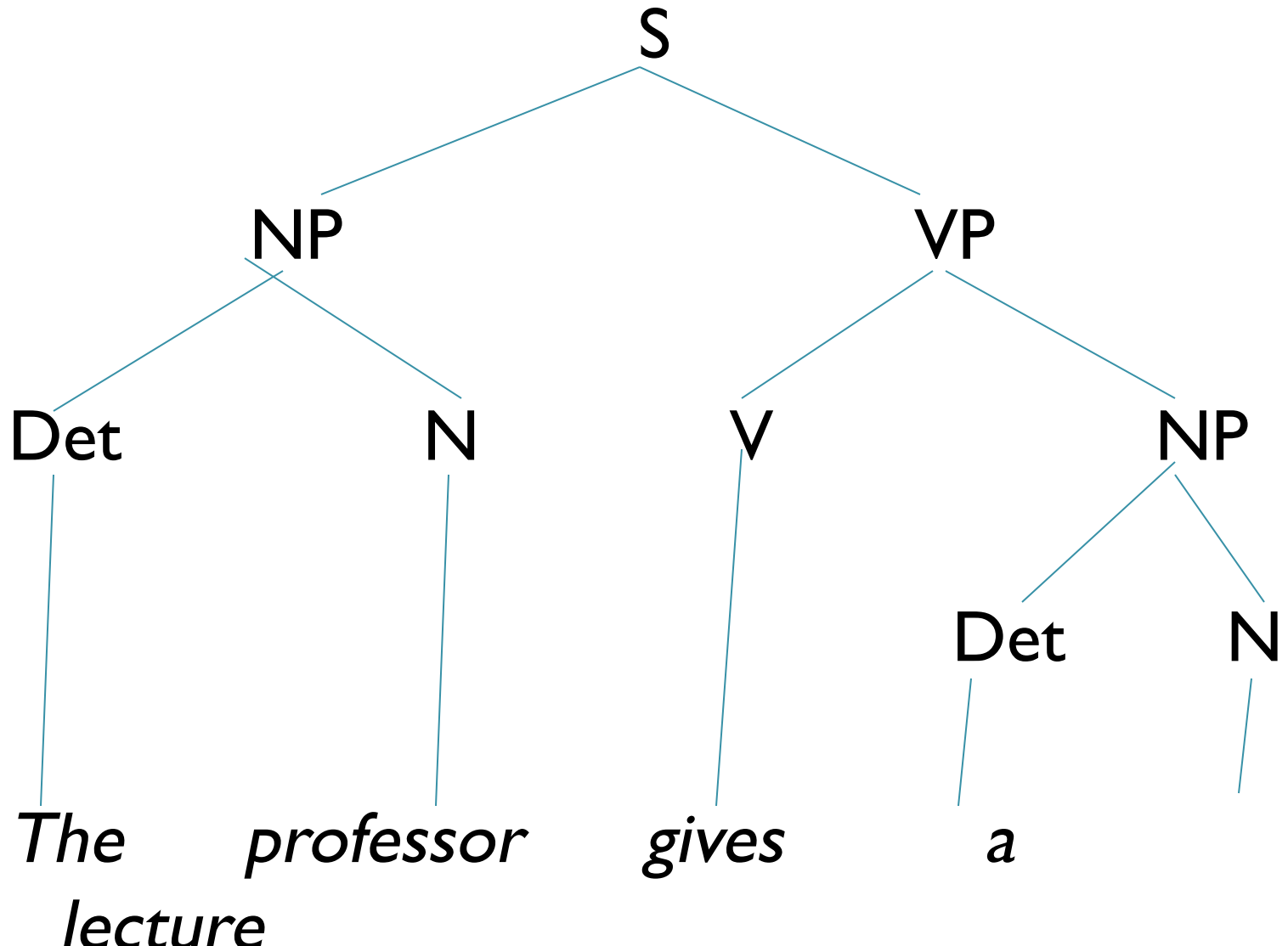- *The **dog's bark** was terrifying.*

Junction => nexus

- *the expensive book*
- *=> The book is expensive.*

Immediate Constituent (IC) Analysis

- The concept introduced by Leonard Bloomfield.

- Aimed to analyze a linguistic expression into a hierarchically defined series of constituents.

- If the complex expression is movable or can be replaced in the sentence by a simple expression, it counts as a constituent.

- The most basic principle of transformational grammar.

The professor gives a lecture.

```
                    S
            ┌───────┴───────┐
            NP             VP
         ┌──┴──┐        ┌───┴───┐
        Det    N        V      NP
         │     │         │    ┌──┴──┐
         │     │         │   Det    N
         │     │         │    │     │
        The professor  gives  a   lecture
```

ACTUAL DIVISION OF THE SENTENCE

or FUNCTIONAL SENTENCE PERSPECTIVE

Terms

- ACTUAL DIVISION OF THE SENTENCE
- **Functional sentence perspective** (Prague School: Vilém Mathesius 1929)
- Communicative structure of the sentence
- Informative perspective of the sentence
- Informational structure of the sentence

- the functional analysis of the sentence,
- communicative analysis,
- the actual division analysis,
- the informative perspective analysis.

What is it?

- the informative value of different parts of the sentence in the actual process of communication

- showing which component of the denoted situation is informationally more important from the point of view of the speaker.

- *Habit is a second nature.*

- *Habit is // a second nature.*

    T   R

Theme – Rheme

- **theme** ("the basis" by V. Mathesius) = the starting point of communication, it usually contains some old, "already known" information (topic, given). < Greek *the-* 'to set'

- **rheme** ("the nucleus" by V. Mathesius) = the basic informative part of the sentence, its contextually relevant communicative center, the "peak" of communication, or the information reported about the theme; it usually contains some new information (comment, focus). < Greek *rhe-* 'to say'

How to find the rheme?

- Intonation, logical stress.
- Contrast.
- Special question.

Telephone was invented by Alexander Bell.

Telephone was invented by Alexander Bell, not Einstein.

Who was telephone invented by?

.

Theory of communicative dynamism (Jan Firbas)

- FSP is not binary but is scalar with degrees of communicative dynamism: T has the smallest and the R the highest degree of communicative dynamism, as the R promotes the communicative process the most.

- transitional parts

- a secondary rheme, the "subrhematic" part of a sentence

- *Again Charlie is late.*

- *There is a pond in the garden.*

- The rheme is the obligatory informative component of a sentence,
- there may be sentences which include only the rheme; the theme and the transition are optional.

- *Who sang the song? – Caroline.*

< logical analysis of the proposition

- Theme = logical subject
- Rheme = logical predicate

Actual & syntactic divisions

Theme = S	Rheme = S
⬇	⬇
direct, unspecialized, or unmarked actual division	inverted, reverse, specialized, contextual, or marked actual division
⬇	⬇
Maria is in the garden.	Who is in the garden? *Maria is in the garden.*
⬇	⬇
T - R	R - T

- English rigid word order is compensated by a comparatively free functional sentence perspective:

- R – T   *A woman enters.*
- T – R – T   *There is a book on the table.*

Formal lingual means of expressing R

- word order,
- constructions with introducers,
- contrastive and emphatic complexes,
- articles and other determiners,
- constructions with intensifying particles,
- length of components,
- and intonation contours (logical accent)
- special graphical means

- *The bear was killed by the hunter.*
- *There is a ferocious bear in the forest.*
- *It was a bear who frightened us.*
- *A bear, not a dog frightened us.*
- *A bear appeared.*
- *Only this hunter is able to kill the bear.*
- *The hunter did kill a bear.*
- *Many people saw it.*

Importance for Text construction

- $T_1 - R_1$
- $\quad T_2 - R_2 \qquad (R_1 = T_2)$
- $\qquad T_3 - R_3 \qquad (R_2 = T_3)$

*Once upon a time there was a **king**. **He** had three **daughters**. **Two of them** were beautiful…*
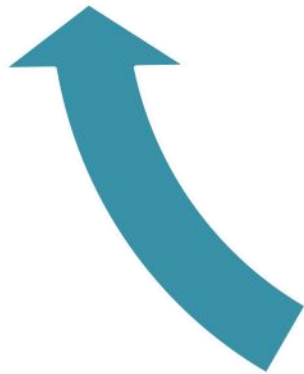
Aspects of the sentence

functional

structural

Parts of the sentence

Theme-rheme

semantic

objective/ subjective designation of the situation:
Participants and circumstances

Semantic aspect of the sentence

Sentence

Dictum/Proposition   Modus

| designatum | attitude towards the designated |

«minuture drama»
with participants and circumstances

doubt
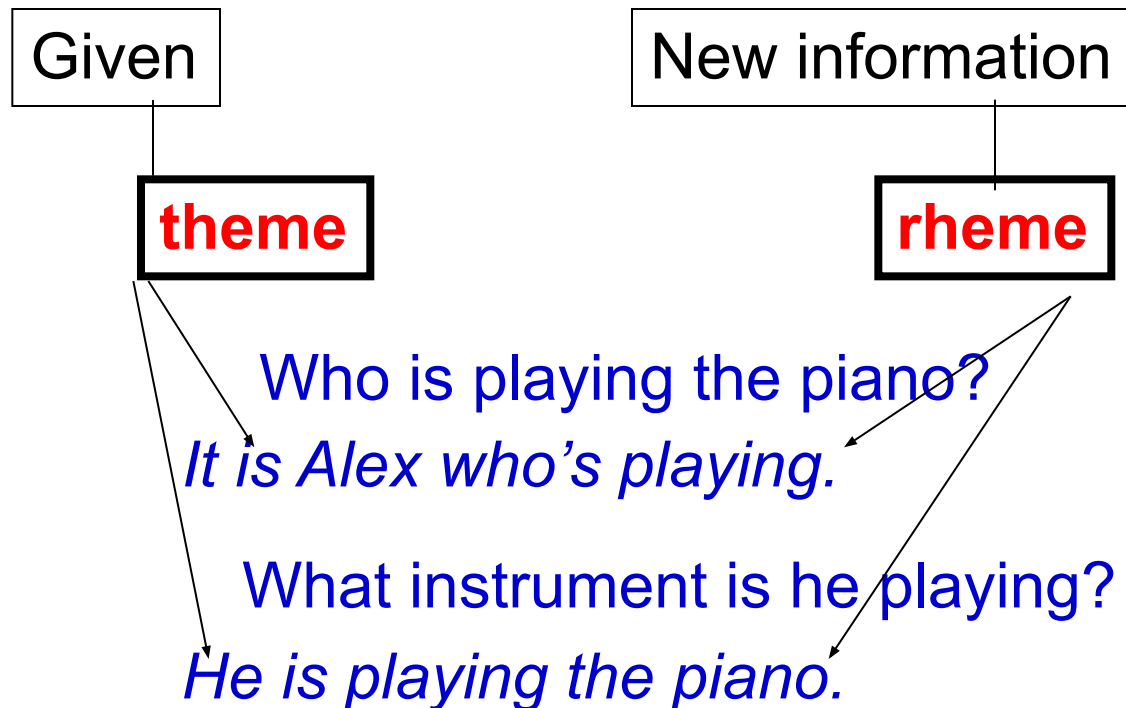
desirablilty

object – instrument– (agentive)

The tree was cut with an axe

The tree seems to have been cut by an axe.

Functional aspect of the sentence

Actual division

= informative value of a sentence constituent

Given	New information

theme   **rheme**

Who is playing the piano?

It is Alex who's playing.

What instrument is he playing?

He is playing the piano.

Glossary

Ядерное предложение

(Не)распространенный член предложения

Предикативная связь

Атрибутивная связь

Объектная связь

Обстоятельственная связь

Комплетивная связь

Парентетическая связь

Вторично-предикативная связь

Взаимозависимость

Главные члены предложения

Второстепенные члены

Подлежащее

Структурное подлежащее

Сказуемое

Простое глагольное сказуемое

Сложное модальное сказуемое

Сложное фазовое сказуемое

Сложное именное сказуемое

Именной член сказуемого

Дополнение

Прямое дополнение

Косвенное дополнение

Предложное дополнение

Комплемент

Определение

Приложение

Обстоятельство (места, времени, цели, причины, степени/меры, уступки, результата, образа действия, сопутствующих условий, последующего события)

Диктум

Модус

Нексус

Юнкция

Непосредственно составляющие

Правило близости

Актуальное членение

Функциональная перспектива предл.

Тема

Рема

Переходные элементы