

HUL242:: Tutorial-7

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Q1. What are the ways through which one can subcategorize verbs? Explain with examples from English or Hindi.

Q2. You are given the following Context free grammar for English. Recall that a CP is a complementizer phrase, TP is a tensed phrase. Given this grammar, check whether the sentences/phrases given below can be generated successfully. PPs are prepositional phrases, with a P (preposition) as its head.

1. $CP \rightarrow (C) TP$
 2. $TP \rightarrow NP/CP (T) VP$
 3. $VP \rightarrow (AdvP+) V (NP)(NP/CP) (AdvP+) (PP+) (AdvP+)$
 4. $NP \rightarrow (D) (AdjP+) N (PP+) (CP)$
 5. $PP \rightarrow P(NP)$
 6. $AdjP \rightarrow (AdvP) Adj$
 7. $AdvP \rightarrow (AdvP) Adv$
 8. $XP \rightarrow XP \text{ conj } XP$
 9. $X \rightarrow X \text{ conj } X$
- these very finicky children
 - that notebook with the scribbles in the margin
 - over the counter medicine
 - He likes cookies and he hates milk

Q3. In the sentence *Hospitals are sued by seven foot doctors*, state whether there is one or two possible parses. Provide a paraphrase with the meaning of the sentence(s), and then state how the structural ambiguity will be captured. Will you need to modify the NP rule or the VP rule?

Q4. In the following sentences, we find alternations, i.e. differences in the way verbs can subcategorize for arguments:

1. The butter melted
2. The cook melted the butter
1. The boys ate
2. The boys ate pasta

Verbs such as *melt*, *freeze* or *cool* form a class of verbs. Similar is the case with verbs like *eat* or *play*. What features distinguish *melt*-verbs from *eat*-verbs? State reasons other than valency (which is not a distinguishing feature anyway).