ENG 235: Morphology and Syntax of English — Fall Semester 2004: TUE/FRI 13.30-15.00
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October 22, 2004

CLASS 12: LINKING & ARCHITECTURE

LINKING: UTAH

We now have a **hierarchy of projections** (*v* >> V, with **Move**: V undergoes movement to *v*) and know which argument (AGENT, THEME, GOAL…) appears in which position. **Or do we…?**

(1) a. John gave **it** to Mary.
b. *John gave to Mary **it**.

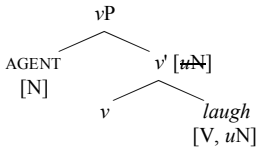
We need a way to connect a certain type of argument to a certain type of position: **Linking**.

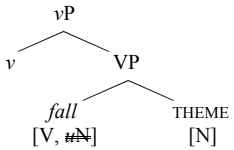
(2) ***Uniformity of Theta-Assignment Hypothesis (UTAH)***
Identical thematic relationships between predicates and their arguments are represented syntactically by identical structural relationships when items are Merged.

Now we do! Consider:

(3) a. NP daughter of *v*P → interpreted as AGENT
b. NP daughter of VP → interpreted as THEME
c. PP daughter of V' → interpreted as GOAL

This gives us also a **structural distinction** between **unergative and unaccusative** verbs:
[NB: I added the **appropriate features** that are checked, which Adger (p. 140) left out!]

(4) a.


b.


In Italian for example unergatives and unaccusatives differ **morpho-syntactically**: unergative verbs in past participle form don't **agree with the subject**, unaccusatives do, and **auxiliary selection** differs famously with the former taking a form of *have*, the latter a form of *be*.

(5) a. Molte ragazze **hanno** telefonato.
many girls have phone-PAST_PART.3SG
'Many girls have phoned.'

b. Molte ragazze **sono** arrivate.
many girls are phone-PAST_PART.3PL
'Many girls have arrived.'

THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE GRAMMAR

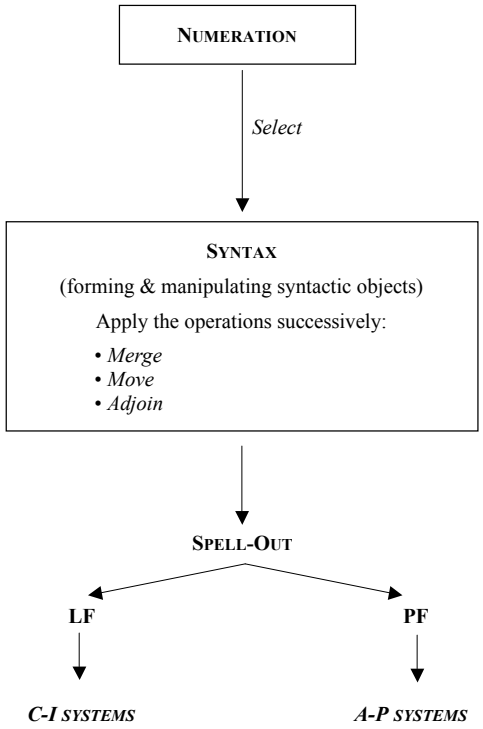
The **numeration** contains all lexical items and functional categories to be **selected**.

(6) a. John likes his goldfish.
b. Num = {John, *v*, likes, his, goldfish}

The **language faculty** consist of several components:
• **Lexicon**, **Syntax**, **Logical Form (LF)**, **Phonetic Form (PF)**.

These eventually feed the ***conceptual system***:
• the ***conceptual-intentional (C-I) system*** and the ***articulatory-perceptual (A-P) system***.

(7)



In the remainder of this course, we will explore further the properties of **Syntax**: what **operations** exist, and why, what do they all do, and how (if at all) are they (inter-)connected?

And: what does the system have to look like to derive the **pairing of sound and meaning**? What conditions apply at **LF**, what conditions apply at **PF** — how does the whole thing (the **computational system of human language C_{HL}**) work for a given **derivation**?