

February 10, 2009

CLASS 11: THE VERB PHRASE AND THE SENTENCE

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- (1) The student with the funny hat will answer all questions almost immediately.

We said that constituency breaks down into: NP + AUX + VP (VP = V+NP+AdvP).

- subject / object asymmetry
- complement / adjunct (object / modifier)
- NP / AUX vs. AUX / VP? (\Rightarrow AUX + VP)
- change tense into past (\Rightarrow \emptyset -AUX + *answered*)

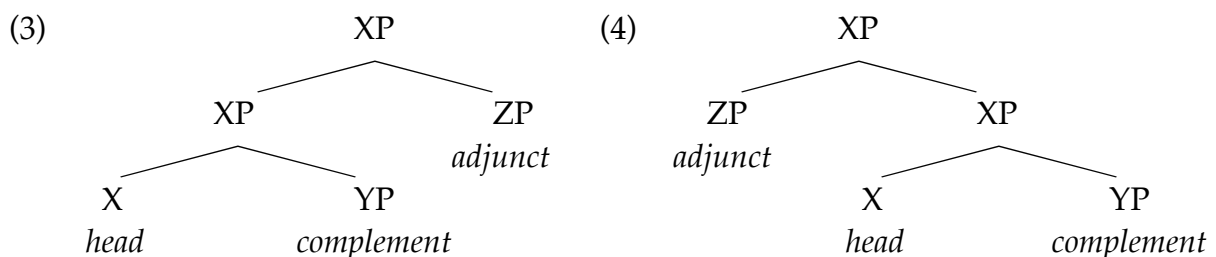
VP

- (2) [_{VP} answer [_{D/NP} all questions] [_{AdvP} almost immediately]]

- transitive vs. intransitive verbs
- OV order / base position

PS

- phrase structure ("XP")



\Rightarrow "When an unacceptable structure is ruled out because the grammatical system of the language does not allow it then we call it *ungrammatical*." (Haegeman 2005: 100)

- (5) *Head Hypothesis*

The category of a constituent is determined by the category of its head.

- (6) *Binary Composition Hypothesis*

All syntactic structure is binary.