

Categorization

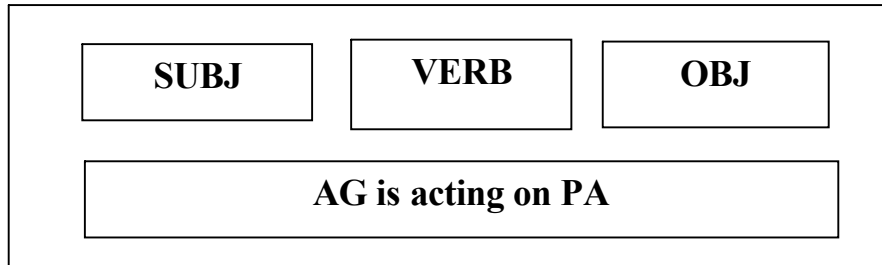
Table 1. The checklist theory and the prototype theory in comparison

Checklist theory	Prototype theory
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Words are defined based on common features• Words (or categories) have clear-cut boundaries• All members of a category have equal status• The meaning of words/categories is invariable	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Words are defined based on a best exemplar• Words (or categories) have fuzzy boundaries• Some members are better examples of a certain category than others• The meaning of words/categories is culture and context dependent

Subject

1. It occurs in the position before the subject.
 - (1) a. Yesterday, Peter met Mary.
 - b. Across the bridge lived an old man.
2. It agrees with the verb in third person.
 - (2) a. Peter likes bananas.
 - b. There are my shoes.
3. It occurs in nominative case.
 - (3) a. He(*him) is a teacher.
 - b. Him be a doctor!
4. It controls the actor of the omitted subject of participle adverbial clauses and coordinate sentences.
 - (4) a. Entering the room, Peter saw Mary.
 - b. Peter convinced Mary to stay and ___ left.
 - c. The conference closed, we left London
5. It functions as actor.
 - (6) a. Peter kicked the ball.
 - b. The ball was kicked against the wall.
 - c. The bomb exploded.

Transitive construction



- | | | | |
|-----|----|----------------------------|------------------|
| (1) | a. | Peter kicked the ball. | [activity] |
| | b. | Peter likes bananas. | [psych] |
| (2) | a. | Peter ate up the cake. | [telic] |
| | b. | Peter was eating the cake. | [atelic] |
| (3) | a. | I forgot your name. | [non-volitional] |
| | b. | I write your name. | [volitional] |
| (4) | a. | I kicked the ball. | [punctual] |
| | b. | I repaired the car. | [non-punctual] |
| (5) | a. | I drank some beer. | [substance] |
| | b. | I drank the beer. | [individual] |
| (6) | a. | I didn't kick the ball. | [negative] |
| | b. | I kicked the ball. | [affirmative] |

Subordinate clauses

- | | | | |
|-----|----|---|--|
| (1) | a. | I assume that she will come. | |
| | b. | The car that I bought was very expensive. | |
| | c. | It is a fact that she will come. | |