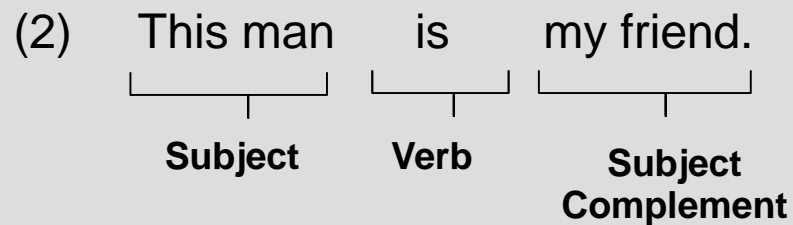
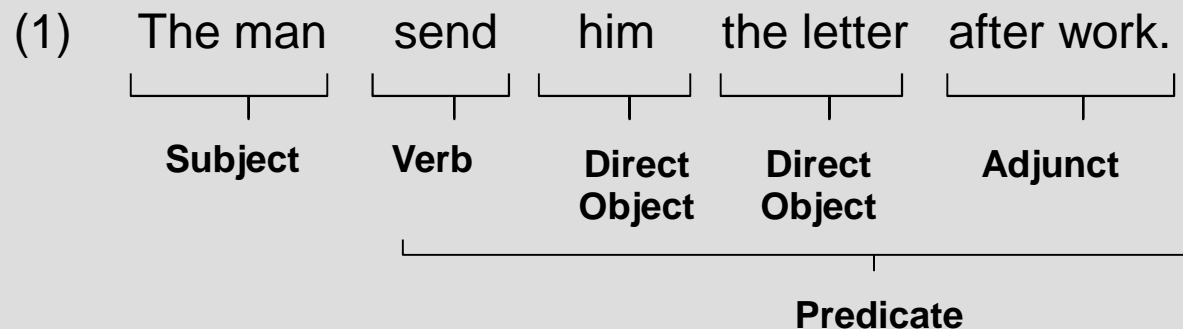


Grammatical relations

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Grammatical relations

- Explain the notions of syntactic functions and semantic roles.
- Explain the notions of direct object and oblique object.
- Explain the difference between arguments and adjuncts.
- Explain the term subject complement.



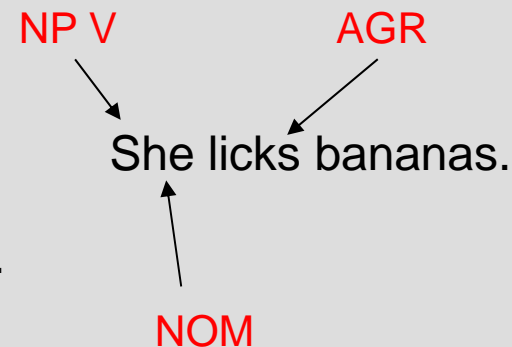
Subject

The subject is the agent - ???

- | | | |
|-----|--------------------------|-------------|
| (1) | The man kicked the ball. | agent |
| (2) | Peter enjoyed the meal. | experiencer |
| (3) | The house exploded. | patient |
| (4) | John received a present. | recipient |
| (5) | Jena is in Thüringen. | location |

Criteria:

- The subject precedes the verb.
- The subject agrees with the verb.
- Subject pronouns occur in nominative case.



Predicator

(1) The man was kicking the ball.

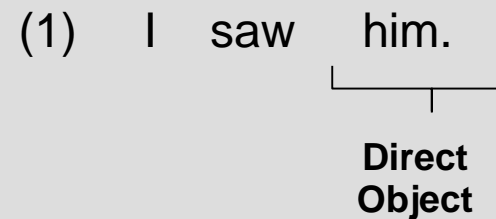
Diagram illustrating the structure of the sentence: "The man was kicking the ball." The words "was" and "kicking" are grouped under brackets labeled "OP" (Operator) and "PRED" (Predicator) respectively.

- Main verbs are “predicator”
- Auxiliary verbs are “operators”

Transitivity:

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|--------------|
| (1) | The man was sleeping. | intransitive |
| (2) | The man was kicking the ball. | transitive |
| (3) | The man gave him the ball. | ditransitive |

Direct object



Criteria:

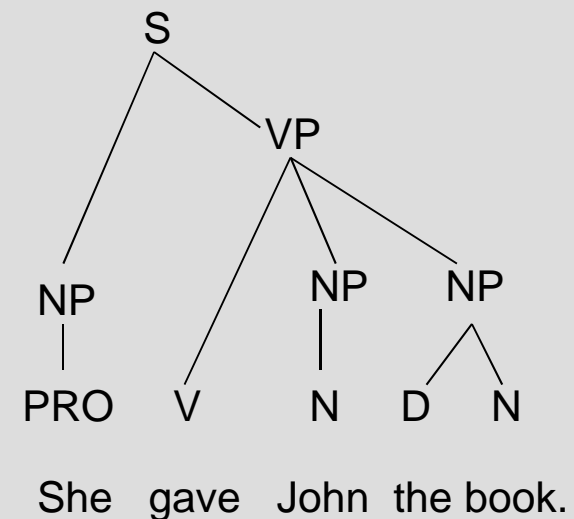
- The direct object immediately follows the verb (in transitive clauses).
- Object pronouns occur in 'object case'.
- Role: typically patient

The double object construction

- (1) She send me a letter.
- (2) John gave Jack the key.
- (3) Jill baked Jane a cake.

Criteria:

- Both objects follow the verb.
- Both objects are expressed by NPs.
- But the two objects serve different roles.



Oblique object

- (1) She thought of something else.
- (2) John talked about Jane.
- (3) She lives in Paris.

Criteria:

- The PP is obligatory
- The preposition is closely associated with the verb
- The preposition has abstract meaning

Oblique objects can follow a direct object:

- (4) She send a letter to his friend.
- (5) Jill baked a cake for his mother.

Adjunct

- (1) She was working in the garden.
- (2) He arrived on time.
- (3) It rained heavily.

Criteria:

- Semantic: place, time, manner, etc.
- Optional

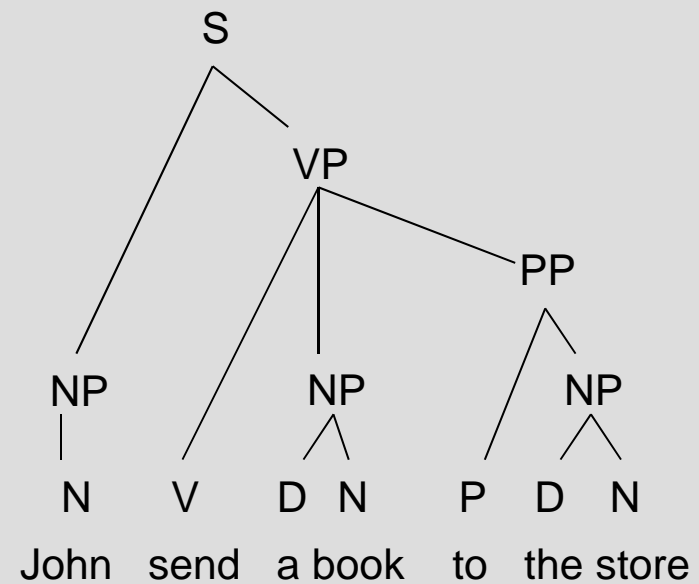
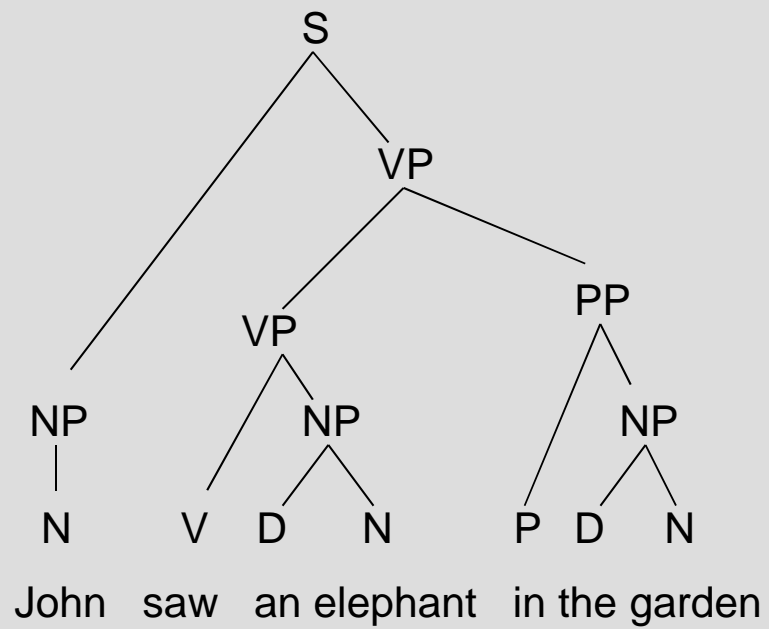
	Oblique OBJECT	Prepositional ADJUNCT
Obligatoriness	obligatory	optional
Meaning	abstract	time, place, case,
V-P	conventionalized	free

Object vs adjunct

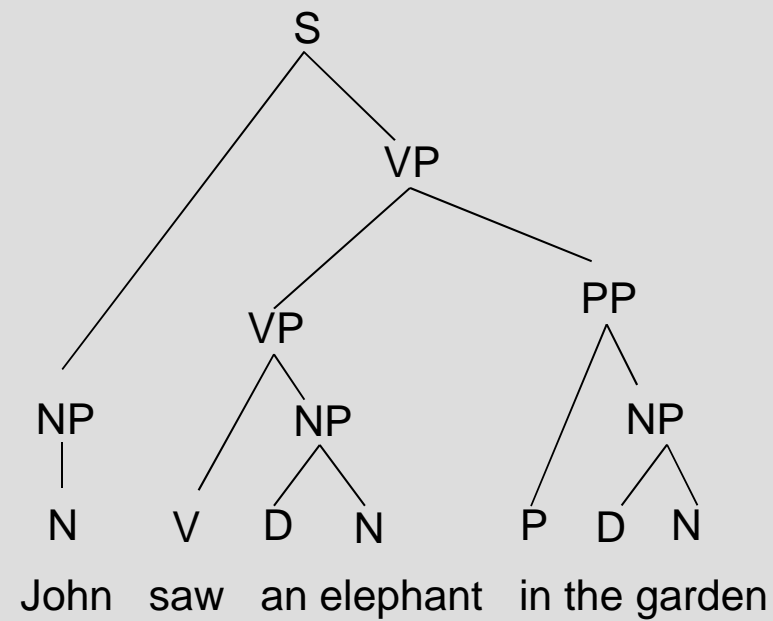
Object or adjunct?

- (1) Peter thought of last night.
- (2) Peter slept in his bed.
- (3) Peter put the letter in his room.
- (4) Peter wrote the letter in his room.
- (5) Peter lived in New York.
- (6) Peter died in New York.

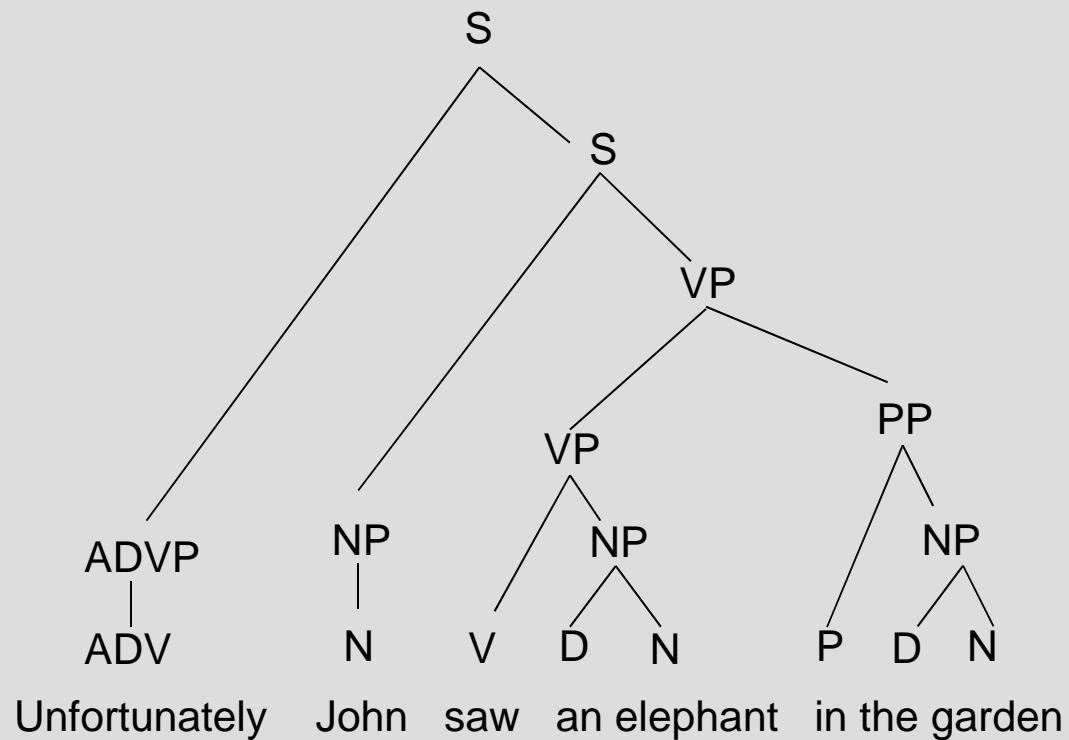
Adjunct



Sentence adjunct

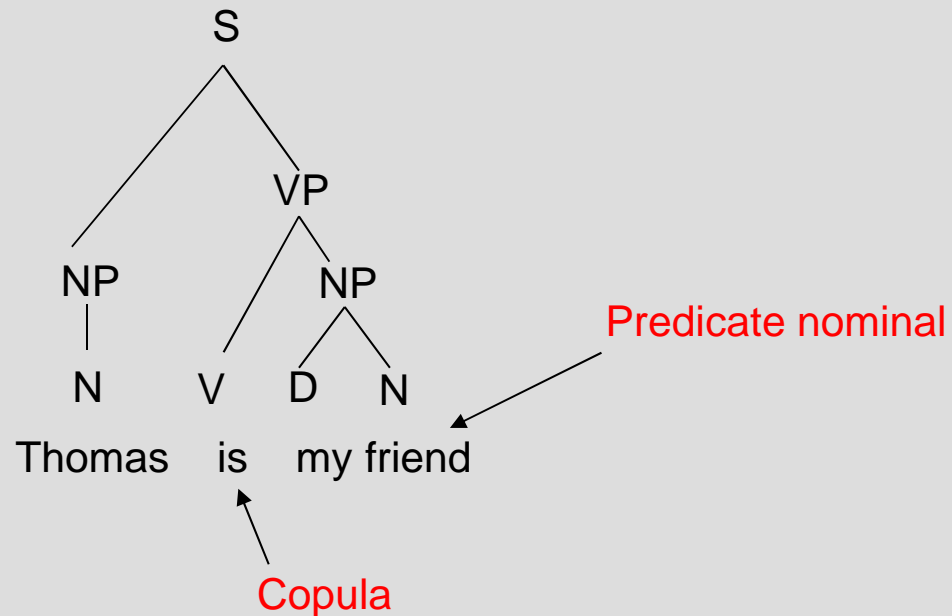


Sentence adjunct



Subject complement

- (1) Thomas is my friend.
- (2) Jill became my friend.
- (3) She is happy.



Object complement

- (1) Bill called me an idiot.
- (2) I consider it a mistake.
- (3) She pushed the door open.

