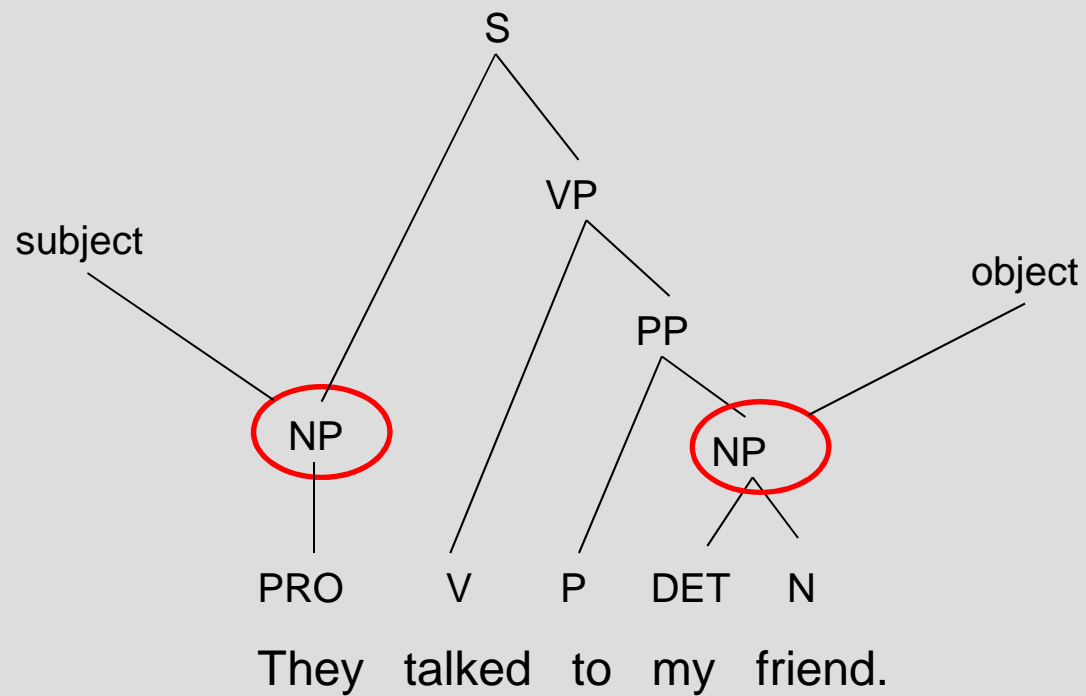# Lexical categories

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Review

- Explain the terms syntagmatic and paradigmatic
- Define the notions of noun, noun phrase, and subject. Use the following example to explain your answer.

  (i) A friend of mine introduced me to his teacher.

- Draw a phrase structure tree of the following sentence.

  (ii) They talked to my friend.

Example

S
VP
subject
object
PP
NP
NP
PRO   V   P   DET   N
They   talked   to   my   friend.

Open word classes

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Adjective	Adj	*good, watery, calm, unlimited, friendly, able*
Adverb	Adv	*now, there, calmly, actually, away, today*

Nouns

Inflections categories:

- ❑ number
- ❑ gender
- ❑ case

car - cars

he - she

he - him

Subtypes:

- ❑ count nouns
- ❑ proper/common nouns
- ❑ mass nouns

a car

*a Peter

*?a milk

Verbs

Inflections categories:

❑	tense	Present vs. Past
❑	aspect	Simple vs. Progressive
❑	voice	Active vs. Passive

Subtypes:

❑	transitive	take, hit, see
❑	intransitive	walk, sleep, die
❑	ditransitive	give, send, offer

Verbs

	V-0	V-s	V-ed	V-ing
Regular				

Verbs

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Regular	ask	asks	asked	asking
	wash	washes	washed	washing

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Irregular	*sing*	*sang*	*sung*	*singing*

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Adjectives

Two basic uses:

- ❑ attributive: The big book
- ❑ predicative: The book is big

	Plain	**Comparative**	**Superlative**
Gradable	*funny*	*funnier*	*funniest*

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Subtypes:

run quickly   ❑   circumstance

very old   ❑   degree

Unfortunately, ...   ❑   sentential

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Adverb type	Eliciting question	Examples
Manner adverb	How?	*well, nicely, cleverly*
Place adverb	Where?	*here, there, everywhere*
Direction adverb	Where to? Where from?	*up, back, forward, home*
Time-*when* adverb	When?	*then, once, tonight, soon*
Duration adverb	How long?	*long, briefly, always*
Frequency adverb	How often?	*always, often, usually*

Auxiliaries

Basic auxiliaries:

❑   be   progressive, passive

❑   have   present + past perfect

❑   will   future tense

Modal auxiliaries:

❑   deontic use   I can't help you

❑   epistemic use   This cannot be right

Determiners

articles	*the, a(n)*

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interrogative determiners	*what, which, whatever, whichever,*

Pronouns

I, me, you, he, him, she, her, it, we, us, they

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others	*of, with, about, as*