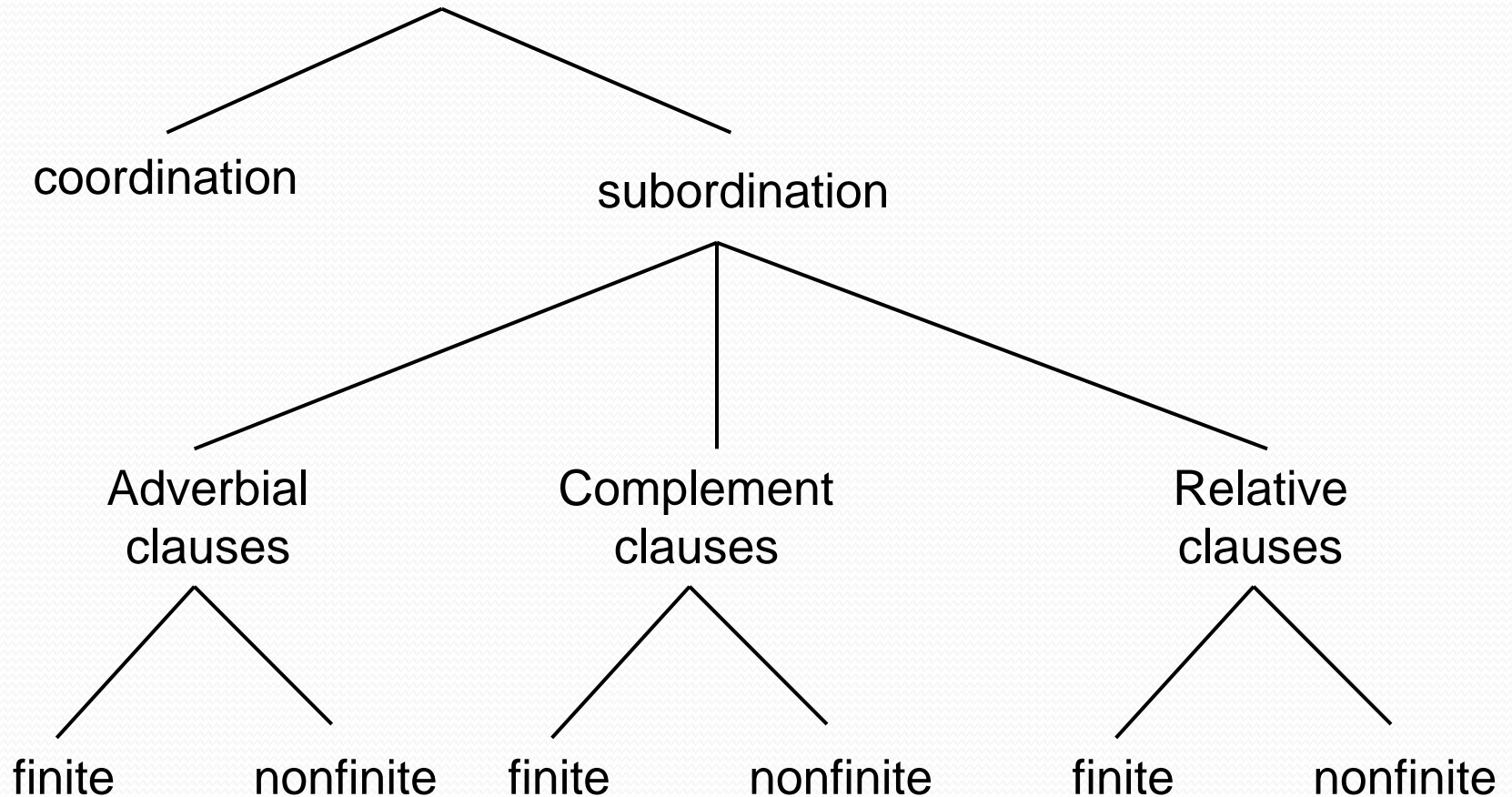


Complex Sentences

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Subordinate clauses

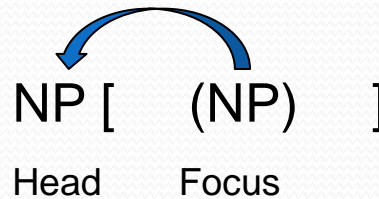




Relative clauses

Function

A relative clause is a complex attribute that ‘specifies’ or ‘elaborates’ the meaning of a nominal expression in the main clause.



Two functional types of relative clause are commonly distinguished:

- (1) The cat chased the mouse [that had stolen the cheese].
- (2) The cat chased the mouse, [which had stolen the cheese].

Head vs. Relativized element

Syntactic function of head

- (1) The book [I bought] is very expensive.
- (2) He read the book [I bought].
- (3) He put the cup on the book [I bought].

Syntactic function of focus (=relativized element)

- (1) This is the man [who came into the store].
- (2) This is the man [who I met on the bus].
- (3) This is the man [who I talked to on the bus].
- (5) This is the man [who I gave the book to]
- (4) This is the man [whose dog bit me].

Headedness

(1) The **thing** [I bought] was very expensive.

headed

(2) [What I bought] was very expensive.

headless

Position

English

(1) The book [I bought is interesting].

postnominal

Japanese

(1) [Yamada-san ga ka'te-te i-ru] sa'ru prenominal
Yamada-Mr SUBJ keep-PART be-PRS monkey
'The monkey which Mr Yamada keeps'

Relativization strategy

- The relative pronoun strategy
- The gap strategy
- The resumptive pronoun strategy
- The non-reduction strategy

Relativization strategies

The relative pronoun strategy

- | | |
|---|------------|
| (1) Das ist der Mann, der das Buch gekauft hat. | S/A |
| (2) Das ist der Mann, den ich gestern getroffen habe. | P |
| (3) Das ist der Mann, dem ich das Buch gegeben habe. | IO |
| (4) Das ist der Mann, mit dem ich gestern gesprochen habe. | ADV |
| (5) Das ist der Mann, dessen Hund vorhin gebellt hat. | GEN |

Relativization strategies

The gap strategy

- (1) That's the bridge **that** __ collapsed.
- (2) That's the car I bought __.
- (3) That's the one I thought of __.
- (4) That's the girl I gave the book to __.
- (5) That's the man **whose** dog is chasing the cat.

Relativization strategies

The resumptive pronoun strategy

Hebrew

- (1) Yohanan makir et ha-isha [she ('hi) yeshena].
John knows OBJ the-woman that she sleeps
'John knows the woman who is sleeping.'
- (2) Yohanan makir et ha-ish [she ha-isha hikta (oto)].
John knows OBJ the-man that the-woman hit him
'John knows the man who the woman hit.'
- (3) ha-sarim [she-ha-nasi shalax otam la-mitsraim]
The-ministers that-the-President sent them to Egypt
'The minister that the President sent to Egypt.'

Relativization strategies

(1) This is the road that I know where **it** leads.

Relativization strategies

The non reduction strategy

Internally headed

Bambara

- (1) Tye be [n ye so **min** ye] dyo
man.the PRS I PST house REL see build
'The man is building the house that I saw.'

Wappo

- (2) [ʔi chuya-Ø tumt]-**i** shoyikhi?
I house-DO bought-SUBJ burned.down
'The house I bought burned down.'

Relativization strategies

The non reduction strategy

Correlative / doubly-headed

Hindi

- (1) [Ādmī ne jis **cākū** se murgī ko mārā thā],
man ERG which knife with chicken ACC killed
us **cākū** ko Rām ne dekhā
killed knife ACC Ram ERG saw

‘The man is building the house that I saw.’



The noun phrase accessibility hierarchy

NPAH

- | | |
|--|------|
| (1) That's the man who ___ bought the book. | SUBJ |
| (2) That's the man (who) I met ___ yesterday. | DO |
| (3) That's the man (who) I gave the book to ___. | IO |
| (4) That's the man (who) I went to ___. | ADV |
| (5) That's the man whose dog is barking. | GEN |
| | |
| (6) a. The man ___ talking to Sally is a friend of mine. | SUBJ |
| b. *The man Sally talking to ___ is a friend of mine. | ADV |

NPAH

Malagasy: SU (only)

- (1) ny mpianatra [izay nahita ny vehivavy]
The student that saw the woman
'The student that saw the woman.'

NPAH

Kinyarwanda: SU + DO

- (1) n-a-bonye umugabo [w-a-kubise abagore] SUBJ
I-PST-see man REL-PST-strike woman
'I saw the woman who struck the woman.'
- (2) n-a-bonye abagore [Yohani y-a-kubise] OBJ
I-PST-see woman John REL-PST-strike
'I saw the woman who John struck.'

NPAH

Basque: SU + DO + IO

- (1) [emakume-a-ri liburu-a eman dio-n] gizon-a
woman-the-IO book-the give has-REL man-the
'The man who has given the book to the woman.'
- (2) [gizon-a-k emakume-a-ri eman dio-n] liburu-a
man-the-SUBJ woman-the-IO give has-REL book-the
'The book that the man has given to the woman.'
- (3) [gizon-a-k liburu-a eman dio-n] emakume-a
man-the-SUBJ book-the give has-REL woman-the
'The woman that the man has given the book to.'

NPAH

SUBJ > DO > IO/ADV > GEN

NPAH

Malay: SU + GEN

- (1) Gadis [yang duduk di atas bangku] itu kakak Ali
Lady that sit on top bench the elder.sister Ali
'The lady who sat on the bench is Ali's elder sister.'
- (2) Orang [yang abang-**nya** memukul saya] itu
Person that elder.brother-his hit me the
'The person whose elder brother hit me.'

Relativization strategies

The resumptive pronoun strategy

Hebrew

- (1) Yohanan makir et ha-isha [she ('hi) yeshena].
John knows OBJ the-woman that she sleeps
'John knows the woman who is sleeping.'
- (2) Yohanan makir et ha-ish [she ha-isha hikta (oto)].
John knows OBJ the-man that the-woman hit him
'John knows the man who the woman hit.'
- (3) ha-sarim [she-ha-nasi shalax otam la-mitsraim]
The-ministers that-the-President sent them to Egypt
'The minister that the President sent to Egypt.'

Resumptive pronouns

	SUBJ	DO	IO	ADV	GEN
Uroho	+	+	+	+	+
Slovenian		+	+	+	+
Welsh			+	+	+
Fulani				+	+
Malay					+

The absolute hypothesis

(1)	Der Mann, der dort steht.	45%
(2)	Der Mann, der den Brief schreibt.	10%
(3)	Der Mann, den ich gesehen habe.	45%

Some languages do not allow for the relativization of A.

ABS > ERG > IO/OBL > GEN

Fox (1987)

Processing of P-relatives

- (1) The man an old woman met.
- (2) The man the old woman met.
- (3) The man Sally met.
- (4) The man she met.
- (5) The man I met.
- (6) The book I read.