

Practice Exercises

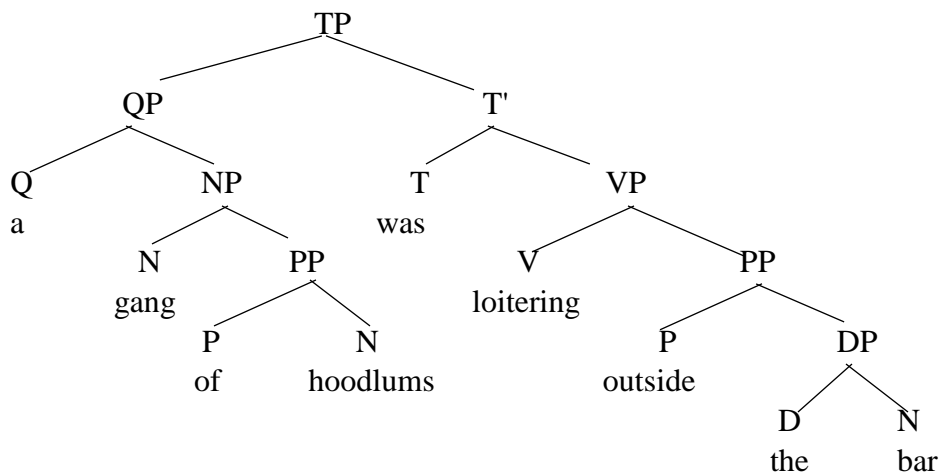
Chapter 2

Draw trees for each of the sentences below assuming no phonetically null constituents.

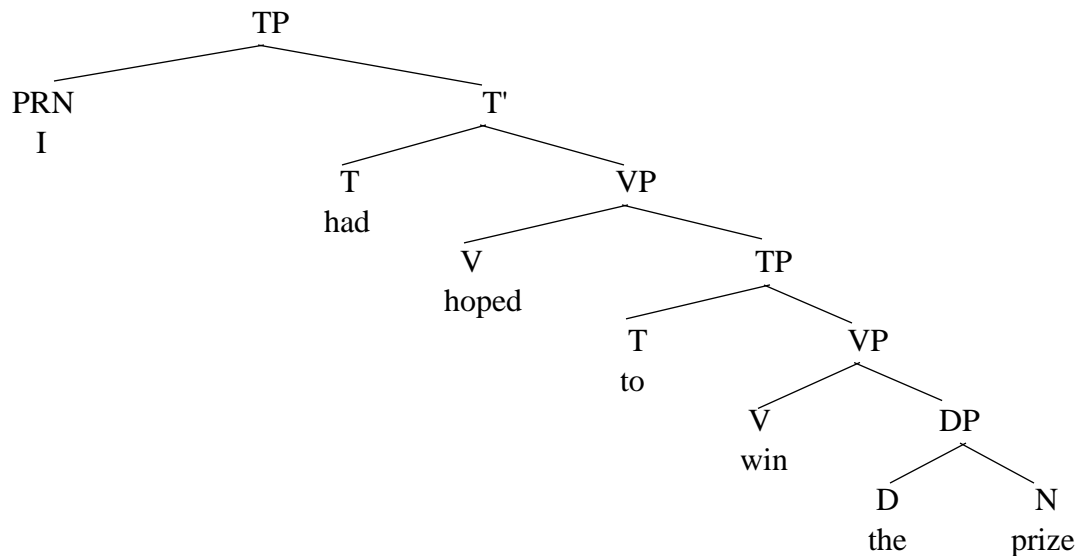
1. The children were playing in the park.
2. That movie about those zombies might scare them.
3. Any teacher should know that students might need help.

Given the following trees, give evidence for the constituency of each phrase (every sequence contained in a non-terminal node).

4.



5.



Given the sentence below, identify the coreference possibilities of *Agnes*, *Susan*, *she* and *herself*, and then compare those possibilities with the predictions of the Binding Theory. (In order to answer this question, you will need to draw a tree for the sentence to demonstrate the c-command relationships.)

6. Agnes might understand that Susan might expect she will help herself.

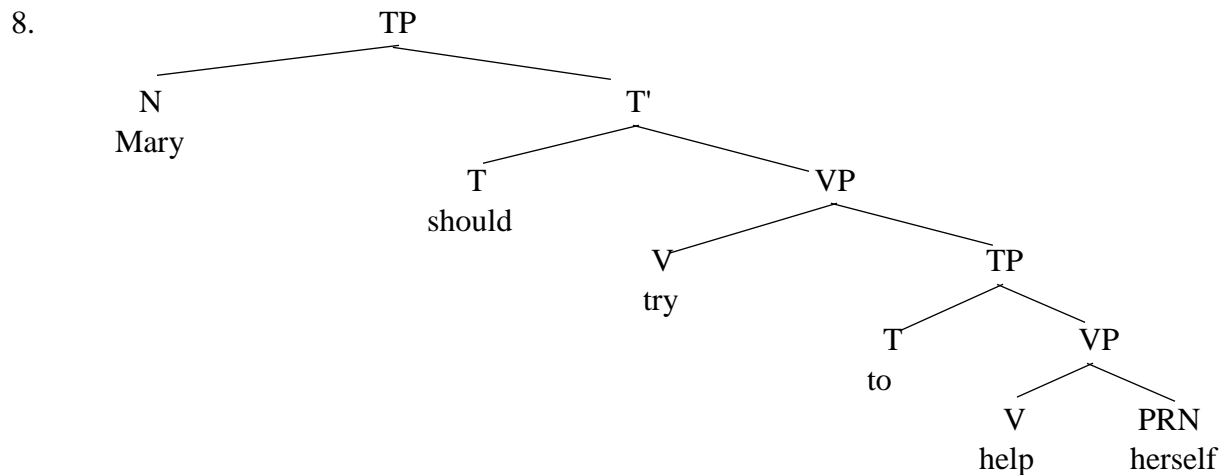
Explain why (7a) below is grammatical while (7b) is ungrammatical.

7a. Nobody had expected me to lift a finger.

b. *Anybody had expected me to lift a finger.

Chapter 3

The tree in (8) would be generated by merger as described in Chapter 1. Chapter 2 suggests that there are a number of phonetically null elements. Identify each of the phonetically null elements missing from this tree and draw a new tree that includes them.



If (9) is an TP, what problem(s) does (9) raise for the theory?

9. The children played in the backyard

If (9) is not a CP, what problem(s) does (10) raise for the theory?

10. The children played in the backyard, but did they stay there?

Explain the difference in structure that accounts for the differences in grammaticality in the sentences in (11).

- 11a. Oscar planned to win.
- b. Oscar planned for him to win.
- c. *Oscar planned him to win
- d. It was planned for him to win.
- e. *He was planned to live
- f. Betty believed him to be a genius.
- g. *Betty believed to be a genius
- h. He was believed to be a genius.
- i. *It was believed for him to to be a genius.
- j. Evelyn expected to win.
- k. Evelyn expected him to win.
- l. It was expected for him to win.
- m. He was expected to win.