LIN Exam Study Notes

Core Linguistics

Phonetics – Sounds of speech
Phonology – System underlying speech sounds
Morphology – Structure of words
Syntax – Structure of sentences
Semantics – Meaning
Pragmatics – Meaning in context

Grammarians

Descriptive Grammarian: Generalizations of rules, how the language is spoken (casually)

Perscriptive Grammarian: How it should be spoken based on rules and education (proper)

- Present tense preferred
- Don't end with preposition

Interpretations— Structural Ambiguity

- Different meanings associated in a sentence
    - Different ways to read it
    - Question/Statement
    - Different ways parts are combined
    - Different places to attach PP on a tree diagram

- Ambiguity: Having more than one meaning

Scope Ambiguity:

- Occurs when two quantifiers or similar expressions can take scope over each other in different ways in the meaning of the sentence
    - Describe different meanings

English Words

- Based on rules such as:
    - Not too many consonants at the end of a word
    - "Sound" words=words Ex. Tsk

English equivalents to other languages:

- Use sounds
- What it looks like
- Used in a sentence

Linguistic Information

- Category (noun, verb etc)
- Singular/Plural
- Pronunciation
- Meaning

Idioms: A group of words whose meaning together is different than each individual word's meaning.

- Some are fixed, some are fairly free (Completely fixed)

How to fix Idioms without losing idiomatic meaning:

- Only certain idioms
- Sometimes; subject, tense

Morphemes

Free Morpheme: Can stand on its own
Bound Morpheme: Needs another part to make it whole

- Sometimes not easy to state each part
  - Need to add something to free root
  - Need to fix bound morphemes
- Ex. Friendly— Friend(Free)ly(Bound)

Elsewhere Principle

Productive regular rule (R1)

- Verb X, past tense is X-ed

Semiproductive rule (R2)

- Verb Ying, past tense Yang
  - R2 applies less generally than R1
  - Elsewhere tells us that R2 will block R1 when both could apply

Specific rule (R3)

- Verb Z=bring, past tense Z=brought
  - R3 more specific than R2/R1
  - R3 blocks both R2/R1

Category-Changing Suffixes

Once attached to a word it becomes of a different syntactic category

- Also known as the Derivational Suffix
- Ex. –able, -er, -ness

Inflectional Suffix— Determines plurality

- Ex. Capetalizers:
    - Capital (root) + ize + er (both Derivational) + s (inflectional)

More Terms

Isolating:

→ A Language that does not appear to be related to any other language

- No prefixes or suffixes
- Functional/closed class information, expressed in separate words

Agglutinating:

→ Formation of words from morphemes that keep original form and meaning with little change during the process

- Each morpheme carries one type of information

Fusional:

→ The merging of side-by-side speech sounds, morphemes or words

- One form carries information about multiple types of inflection

Polysynthetic:

→ Denoting language in which single words may express the meaning of whole phrases

Onomatopia:

→ Sound links to shape

- Formation of a word from a sound associated with what is named

The Right Hand Head Rule:

→ The rightmost morpheme of a word determines the syntactic category of the word.

Arbitrary:

→ The associations including; information about sound, grammar, meaning and other aspects of lexical entries, stored in the lexicon. "Rules"

Reduplication:

→ The repetition of all or part of a word in order to modify its meaning in some way

Complements:

→ "Sister of the phrase"

Adjuncts:
→ Added as a supplementary rather than essential part.

Prototypes:
→ The most common example of a category

Deictic Expression:
→ Used to refer in virtue of some relation to its context of utterance.
- Indexicals
- Demonstratives

Qualificational Elements:
→ Noun Phrase (NP) / Verb Phrase (VP) of a sentence

What Must be Stored in the Lexicon

-Singular nouns
-Irregular plural nouns (geese, sheep etc.)
-The Regular plural suffix *–s*

Syntactic Categories

Noun: a word used to name a person, place, or thing
-If you can take plural inflection, you are a noun

Verb: a word used to name an action, event, or state
-If you can appear in the past tense, you are a verb

Adjective: a word used to describe or identify something named by a noun

The Prefix un-

- Attached to adjectives
- Stays an adjective
- In regards to meaning it negates it (negative)
- Attaches to verbs

Inflectional Affixes

Type 1- When an affix changes the form of a root, does not attach to every adjective

Type 2- Doesn't affect the root, and attaches to pretty much any adjective
- Sometimes awkwardly

Ordering:

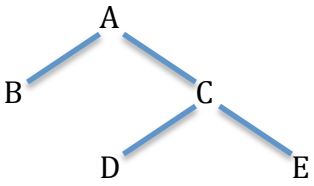
{[Type 2[Type 1(Root)Type 1]Type 2]Inflectional}

Ex. {[Anti[im[par]tial]ness]es}

Tree Diagrams

-verb phrases/noun phrases
-order of affixes/prefixes

Terminology:



- A is the mother of B and C. C is the mother of D and E (A, C = dominate)
- B and C = daughters of A. D and E = daughters of C.
- B and C = sisters. D and E = sisters
- A= Root Node
- B, D and E= Terminal Nodes
- A and C= Nonterminal Nodes

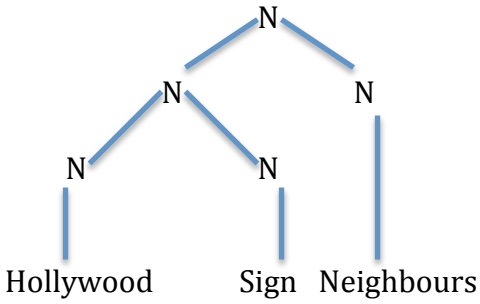
Rules:

S —> NP VP
NP —> D N'
N' —> A N'
N'—> N' PP
N'—> N
VP—> V (NP) (PP) (S') (Adv)
S'—> that S
PP'—> P NP

Compounds

- Typically (if more than one word) a NP
- Can be replaces with a pronoun

Ex. Hollywood Sign Neighbours



Talking about the Neighbours of the *Hollywood Sign*, not the Hollywood Sign of the *Neighbours*

Constituency Tests

Constituent— A word or natural grouping of words that behaves as a unit

Pro-Form Test: replace each constituent with a pronoun to prove it is a constituent.

Question and Answer Test: replace each constituent with the appropriate wh-phrase to prove it is a constituent

Coordination Test: add a similar NP/VP to each believed to be a constituent

Lexical Entries

Example: Put

Put
V
NP___NP PP

Put requires NP and PP to follow it because it is a verb…(Rules from tree diagrams)

Relations Between Concepts

Hyperonym vs. Hyponym:

- If X is a hyponym of Y, and Y is a hyponym of Z, then X is a hyponym of Z.

Ex. Every dog is an animal. Animal is a *hyperonym* of dog. Dog is a *hyponym* of animal.

Basic-Level hyponyms: Common (Dog, not Great Dane)
Meronym:

Ex. Normally, a dog has a nose. Nose is a *meronym* of dog.

Antonym (Opposite):

Ex. If something is wet then it is not dry. Wet and dry are *antonyms*.

Synonyms:

Ex. Every groundhog is a woodchuck and vice versa. Groundhog and Woodchuck are synonyms.

Truth Tables

- Tell you if sentences are true based on their component parts.

P and Q &		Q	
		T	**F**
P	**T**	T	F
	F	F	F

P or Q		Q	
		T	**F**
P	**T**	T	T
	F	T	F

P then Q •		Q	
		T	**F**
P	**T**	T	F
	F	T	T

Not P		
P	**T**	F
	F	T

Quantifiers

- ∀ (Universal Quantifier [Every])
- ∃ (Extential Quantifier [At least one])

→ Each Quantifier is associated with a variable and a proposition

∀x.P(x) : "Every x is such that the property P holds of x"
∃x.P(x) : "At least one x is such that the property of P holds of x"

→ = Implies (Then, if)
& = And
 = Not (No)

Ex. ∀x.(movie'(x)) → (own'(x)(j)))
"If every x is a movie, *then* every x is a movie which "J" does *not* own"

Meaning

Performative – An expression such as "I promise to be there," that describes the act being performed in its utterance

Conversational Maxims:

- → Quantity – Be Informative
  - Flouting Quantity: Tautologies (Stereotypical), Faint Phrase (That's the best I can say about it)
- → Quality – One that is true
  - Flouting Quality: Sarcasm, Metaphor
- → Relation – Be relevant
  - Flouting Relation: Work it out for yourself (Well [because of my answer] it's obvious), Change the Subject
- → Manner – Be Perspicuous
  - Veiled Insult (Subtle insult)

Inappropriate Message – False, Trivial, Irrelevant

Assertion:
- → Information not questionable
- → No need for evidence
- → Statement needing no support
- → Information new to hearer

Presupposition:
- → What hearer must already know or assume to understand meaning of a sentence
- → Presupposed Triggers
  - A word/constituent which gives rise to a presupposition

Core Properties:
- → Accommodated:
  - Add the individual from speakers model of the world to hearers own model of the world to understand

→ Invarient Under Negation:
  - Try to find evidence about past
  - Ex. You have stopped taking drugs.
    - Assumes must have been taking drugs in the past

→ Defeasible:
  - Presuppositions disappear when denied

→ Cancellable:
  - The conditional clause, if, cancels the presupposition because if makes it more of a question than something the reader assumes about the past which is not included in the sentence as a guarantee it happened.

Ex. Peter continued to climb regularly after the accident.

Presupposition: Peter climbed before the accident
Presupposition Trigger: Continued

Conversational Implicature:

→ Enriched meaning, which arises through maxim reasoning in terms of cooperative communication.

Communication

The Message Model:
(Think the game Telephone)

→ One person tells a message (M^1) to another person
→ The other person tells that message (Now M^2)
→ If successful communication, M^1 and M^2 match

Problems:

→ Language used for things beyond communicating information
→ Ambiguity, vagueness, multiple messages with the same signal, need to figure out which is intended
→ Even when we figure out messages, often use them nonliterally

The Inferential Model:

→ Can get around the message model problems, ambiguity, vagueness, metaphors etc.
→ Care about the intentions rather than the literal message itself
→ No problem with performativity

Problems:

→ Looks like magic right now

Utterance's Illocutionary Force:

→ The effect which is inherent in the utterance

- → Requesting, advising, congratulating, asking, excusing, naming, ordering, sentencing, excommunicating, awarding
- → Things speaker can with without intent from hearer
- → Never just part of speaker's beliefs etc.
- → Don't involve the hearer

Utterance's Perlocutionary Effects:

- → Can never be false if performed by people with appropriate authority

Characteristics:

- → First person subject
- → Singular or plural
- → Present tense
- → Active
- → No might/should/could/can (unsure) etc.
- → Indicative
- → Must be qualified to do so in the way they have to be
- → Must be executed correctly and completely
- → Must be sincere

Speech Errors:

- → Tend to involved transfer of few phonological features
- → Tend to preserve syntactic category
- → Other conditions:
    - Frequency – more used words
    - Recency – words accessed recently accessed again more quickly
    - Semantic Relatedness

Minimal Attachment:

- → Build the structure with the fewest nodes

Late Closure:

- → Attach new words as low as possible in structure