

## CATEGORIES & FUNCTIONS: BASIC CONCEPTS IN EMPIRICAL GRAMMAR

Which of the following underlined words are nouns? Why?

- a. Adding some form of counseling makes sense.
- b. Your reading of the ruling is questionable.
- c. She was doing all the work.
- d. The beginning was rather slow.
- e. Stop breaking my heart!
- f. He was dying of cancer.
- g. It's been going on since the beginning of time.
- h. The burning of fossil fuels creates pollution.

What's a determinative?

- Determinatives typically function as determiners in NPs (but many of them have other functions too).
- Determinatives cannot typically combine with the articles *the* and *a/an*.
- Cardinal numbers exist both as determinatives and as nouns (c.f. *table* as both noun and verb)
- They can typically occur in partitive constructions: \_\_\_\_ *of the* (noun) (e.g., *some of the water*).
- They are not typically gradable.
- They interact with the system of number, selecting only certain nouns: singular, plural, countable, and uncountable.

Which of the following are determinatives?

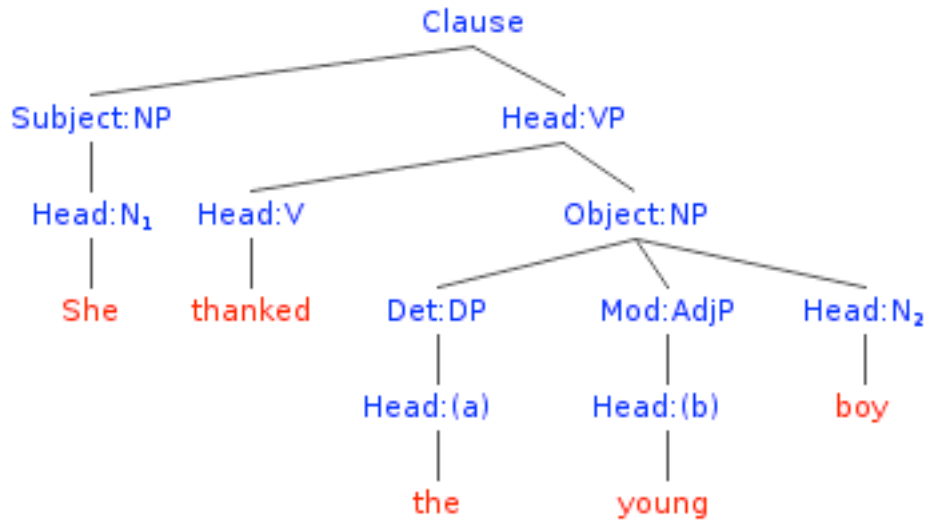
- |                      |                            |                       |
|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. <i>additional</i> | 6. <i>glass/bottle/jar</i> | 11. <i>other</i>      |
| 2. <i>another</i>    | 7. <i>little</i>           | 12. <i>several</i>    |
| 3. <i>any</i>        | 8. <i>much</i>             | 13. <i>sufficient</i> |
| 4. <i>enough</i>     | 9. <i>my</i>               | 14. <i>two</i>        |
| 5. <i>first</i>      | 10. <i>neither</i>         | 15. <i>various</i>    |

Are the underlined words adjectives or verbs?

- i. Her husband tries to make contact by interesting her in various activities.
- ii. That's very interesting.
- iii. What are you demanding?
- iv. It's a very demanding schedule.
- v. These are trying times.
- vi. It's a working hypothesis.
- vii. The trend is driven by changing demographics.
- viii. He found the new haircut becoming.
- ix. She looked over the assembled guests.
- x. She has a polished look that sets her apart.

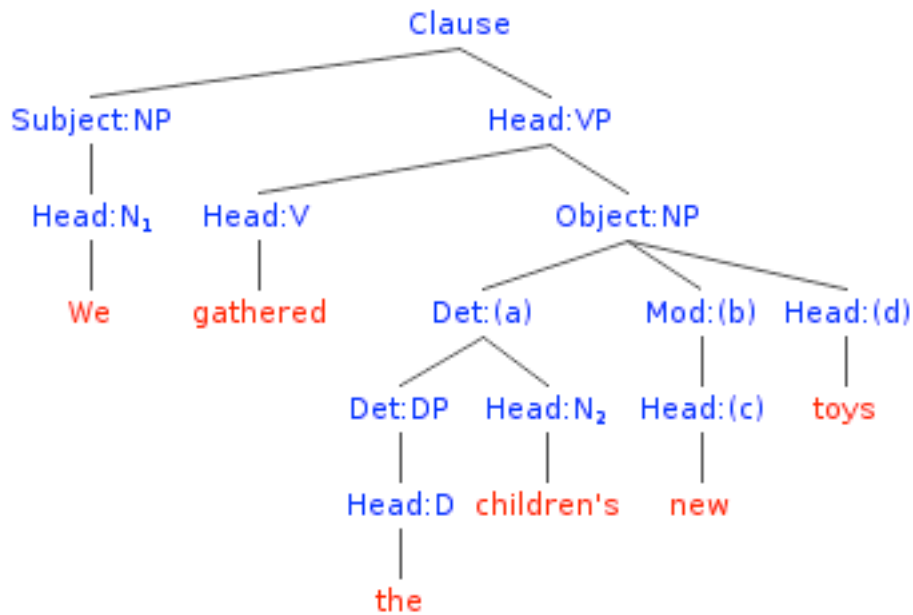
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In the following tree diagrams, fill in the missing categories. Some are just the basic category (e.g., noun, adjective, etc.) and some are phrases (e.g., NP, AdjP, etc.)



i.

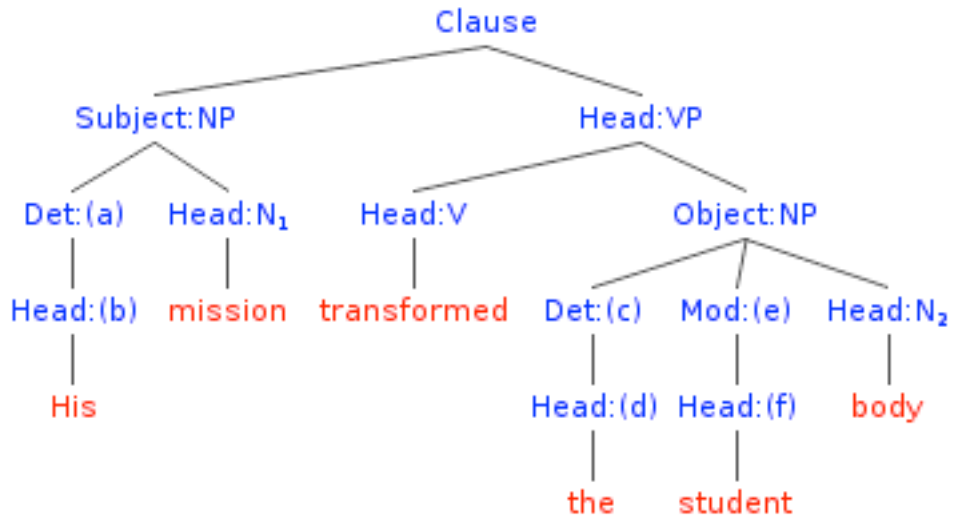
(a) \_\_\_\_\_ (b) \_\_\_\_\_



ii.

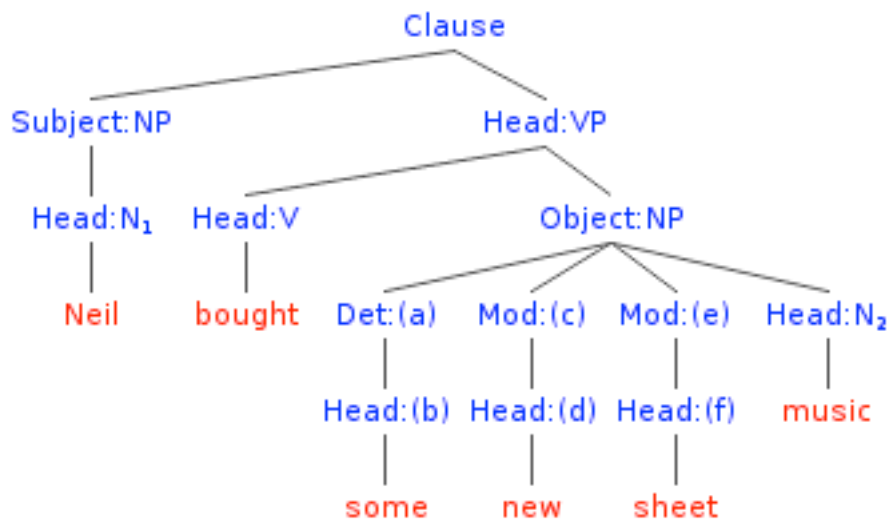
(a) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (b) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (c) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (d) \_\_\_\_\_

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iii.

- |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|
| (a) _____ | (b) _____ |
| (c) _____ | (d) _____ |
| (e) _____ | (f) _____ |



iv.

- |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|
| (a) _____ | (b) _____ |
| (c) _____ | (d) _____ |
| (e) _____ | (f) _____ |

What is the category of the underlined words?

- i. I'll see you soon/shortly.
- ii. I'll see you this evening/another time/next week/Friday.
- iii. I'll see you tomorrow/tonight.
- iv. Recently, he was court-martialed.
- v. Monday/last month, he was court-martialed.
- vi. Yesterday, he was court-martialed.