

Introduction to Linguistics  
Second home assignment  
Due date: 22 Nov, 2016

1. Draw tree diagrams for the following sentences. Do not use triangles.
  - a) The children swam in the sea.
  - b) I sent my relatives a postcard.
  - c) The beautiful young actress left in a limousine.
  - d) Unfortunately, John missed the premiere of the film.
  - e) Every guest thought that Mary came to the party.
  - f) She should visit her grandparents
2. List five rewrite rules that you used in the previous exercise.
3. How many arguments do the following verbs have? Can any of them be implicit? Give reasons for your answers.
  - a) give
  - b) see
  - c) depart
  - d) drink
  - e) meet
  - f) rain
4. Consider the following rewrite rules:
  - S → NP VP
  - NP → Det N'
  - VP → Adv VP
  - VP → V NP
  - N' → A N'
  - N' → N
  - N → dogs, cats, squirrels, neighbour, burglar
  - Det → my, the, many, few
  - Adv → menacingly, surprisingly, obviously
  - A → angry, frightened, exhausted, alarmed
  - V → chased, bit, terrified, provoked

Why are N' nodes needed (i.e. why are just NP and N insufficient)?

In its form, this set of rules is capable of generating sentences that are not grammatical in English.

Give an example for such a sentence. How should the rules be changed to avoid that?

Give an example for a sentence in which all of the rules are used at least once.

How many sentences are these rules capable of generating? Give reasons for your answer.