

Ling 20 Intro, Morphology, and Syntax Quiz 1

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Dis 1B

(1) Circle True or False (2pt):

- a. The grammar of a typical English speaker defines infinitely many morphemes
- b. The grammar of a typical English speaker defines infinitely many words
- c. The head of an English noun compound is usually final
- d. The head of an English verb phrase is usually final

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7.5/10

(2) (Ambiguity in simple syntax, 2pt) The following sentence is ambiguous, with different structures that mean different things:

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(2) Joe saw the manager with binoculars from Walmart

Draw all the syntax trees for this sentence that are allowed by the rules and lexical entries.

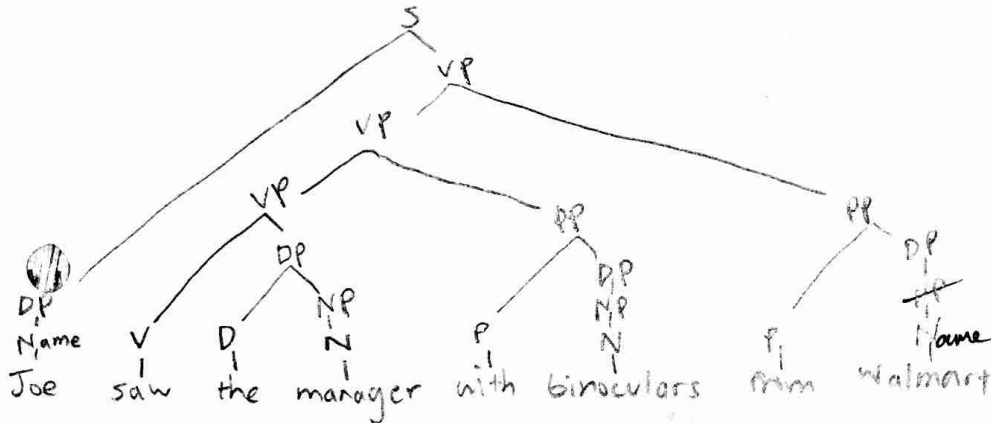
Number your trees 1, 2, 3,

You do not need to show morphological structure. Write N instead of N[plural], and V instead of V[+tns].

(Hint: Think about how many things can modify the main VP, and how many things can modify each NP.)

The judgments in question 3 might be helpful for this question too.)

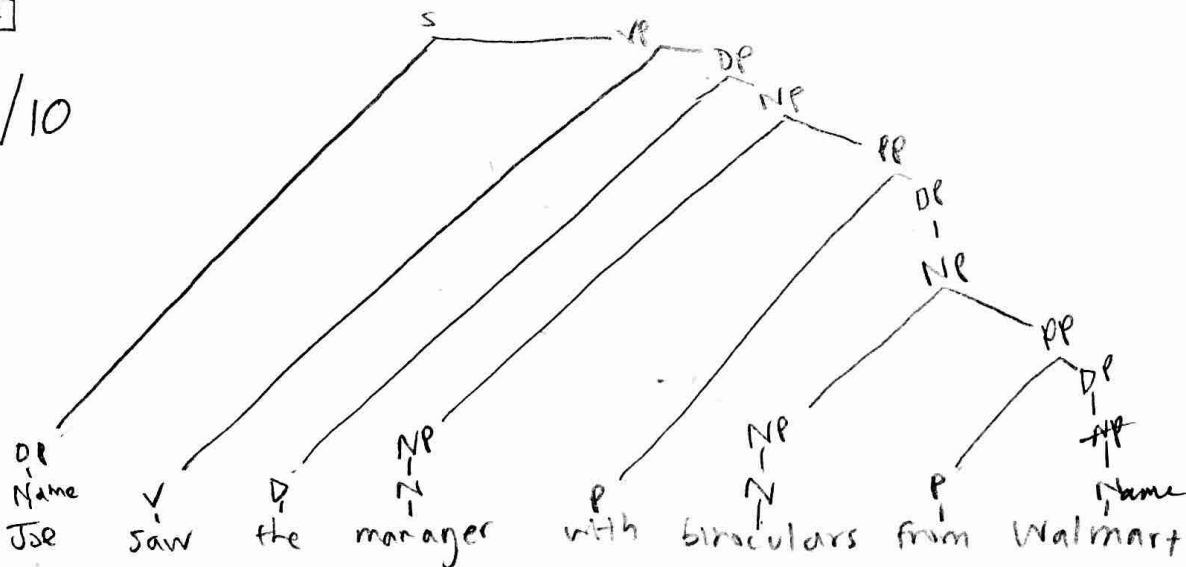
1



DP → name

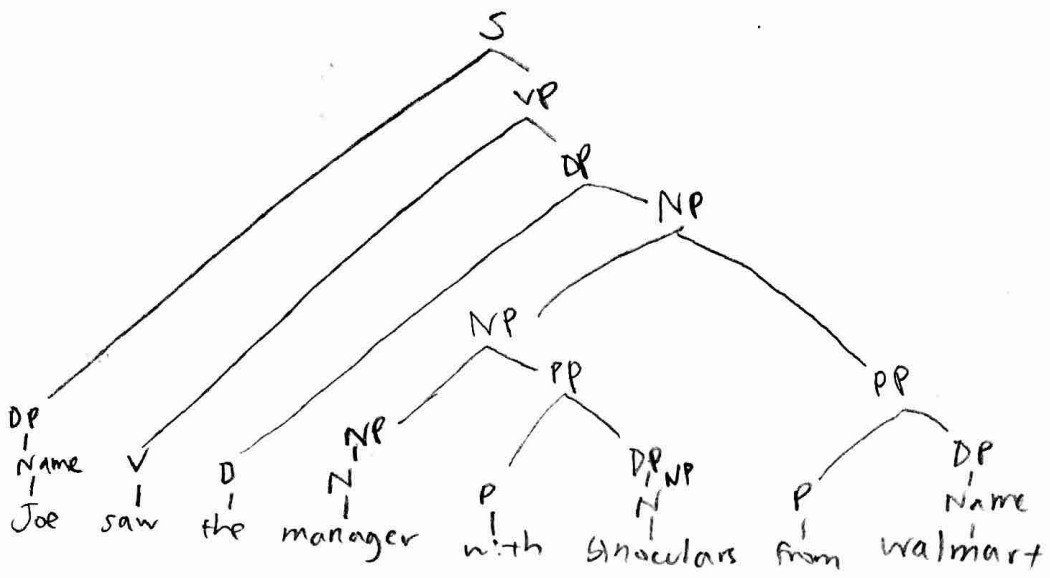
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9/10



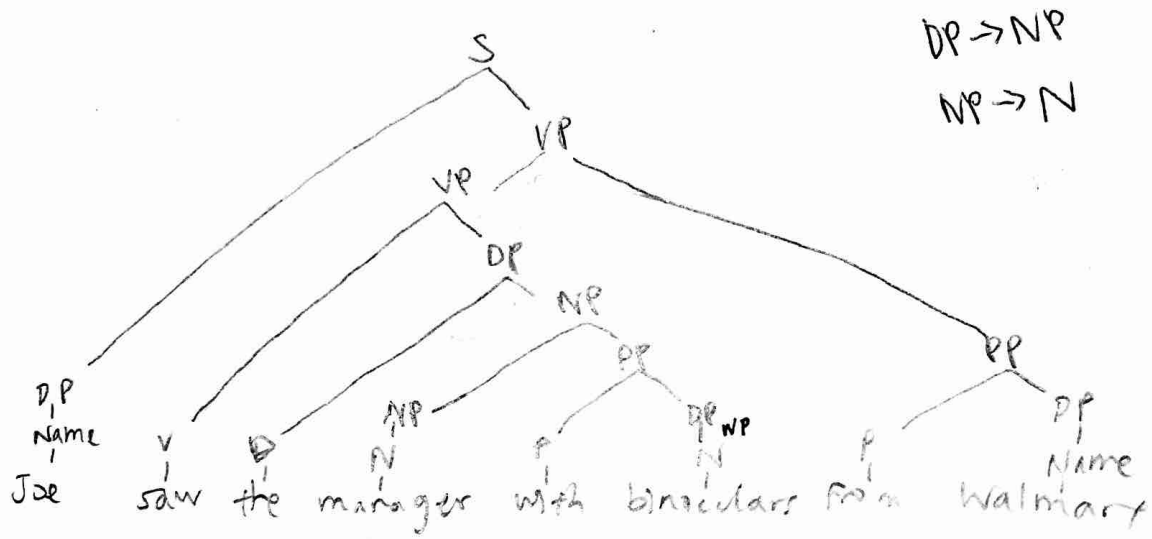
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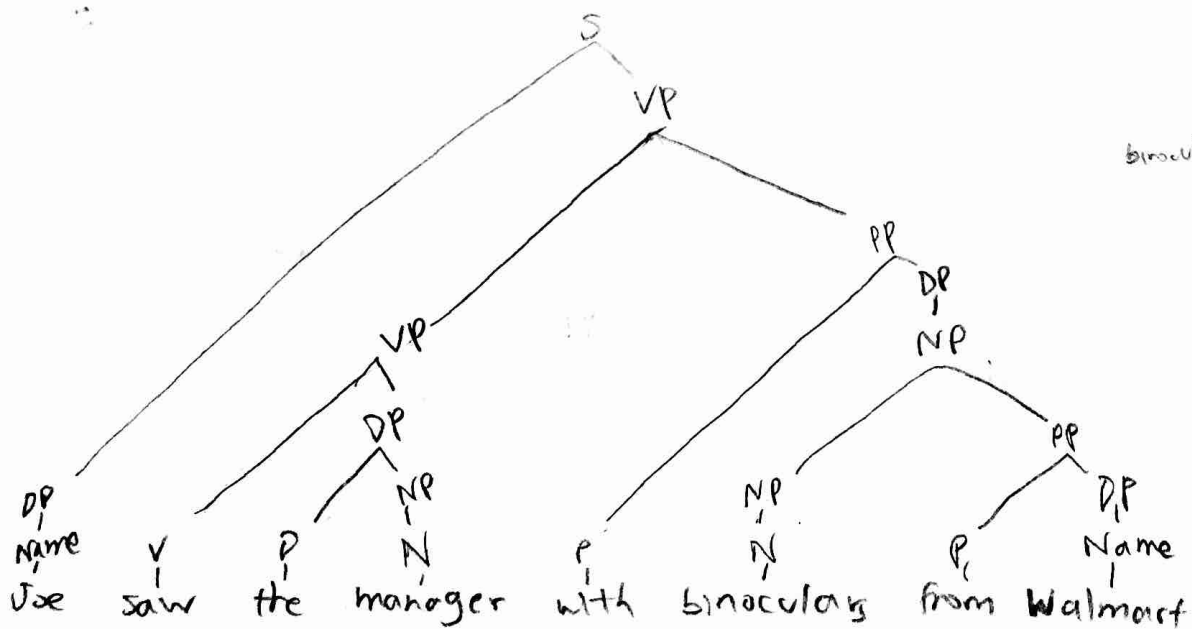
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DP → NP
NP → N

2

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binoculars from Walmart

3

8/10

(3) (Evidence 2pt) Consider these judgements about sentences related to (2).

- a. (OK, diff meaning) Joe saw the manager.
- b. (OK, diff meaning) Joe saw the manager with binoculars.
- c. (OK, diff meaning) From Walmart, Joe saw the manager.
- d. (OK) With binoculars from Walmart, Joe saw the manager.
- e. (OK) With binoculars, Joe saw the manager from Walmart.
- f. (OK) From Walmart, Joe saw the manager with binoculars.
- g. (OK) The manager with binoculars from Walmart, Joe saw.
- h. (OK) The manager with binoculars, Joe saw from Walmart.
- i. (OK) The manager, Joe saw with binoculars from Walmart
- j. (OK) Saw the manager with binoculars from Walmart, Joe did.
- k. (OK) Joe saw the manager with binoculars and the supervisor with a telescope from Walmart.
- l. (OK) Joe saw the manager and glimpsed the CEO with binoculars from Walmart.
- m. (OK) Who did Joe see with binoculars from Walmart? the manager.
- n. (OK) Joe saw the one with binoculars from Walmart.
- o. (OK) Joe saw the one from Walmart.
- p. (OK) Joe saw him. (... saw who? The manager with binoculars from Walmart.)
- q. (OK) Joe saw him from Walmart. (... saw who? The manager with binoculars)
- r. (OK) Joe saw him with binoculars from Walmart. (... saw who? The manager)
- s. (OK) Joe saw the manager with them from Walmart.
- t. (OK) Who did Joe see? The manager with binoculars from Walmart.
- u. (OK) Who did Joe see from Walmart? The manager with binoculars.
- v. (OK) Joe saw him with binoculars from Walmart. Who? The manager

i. There should be at least one of your trees in question (2) where *the manager* is not a DP. Referring to each tree in your answer to (2) where the *the manager* is not a DP, describe which tests above (together with any relevant 'sameness' of meaning judgements) show that you are right to have that tree.

2 A, B, G, J, N, P, T, X

manager (with b from W.)

3 A, B, G, J, N, O, P, S, T

(manager w/ b from W)

4 A, B, C, E, F, H, K, N, O, Q, S, U

J saw manager w/ b from W

ii. There should be at least one of your trees in question (2) where there are modifiers of VP. Referring to each tree in your answer to (2) where there are VP modifiers, describe which tests above (together with any relevant 'sameness' of meaning judgements) show that you are right to have that tree.

1 A, B, C, E, F, I, J, K, L, M, N, R, S

J saw m w/ b from W

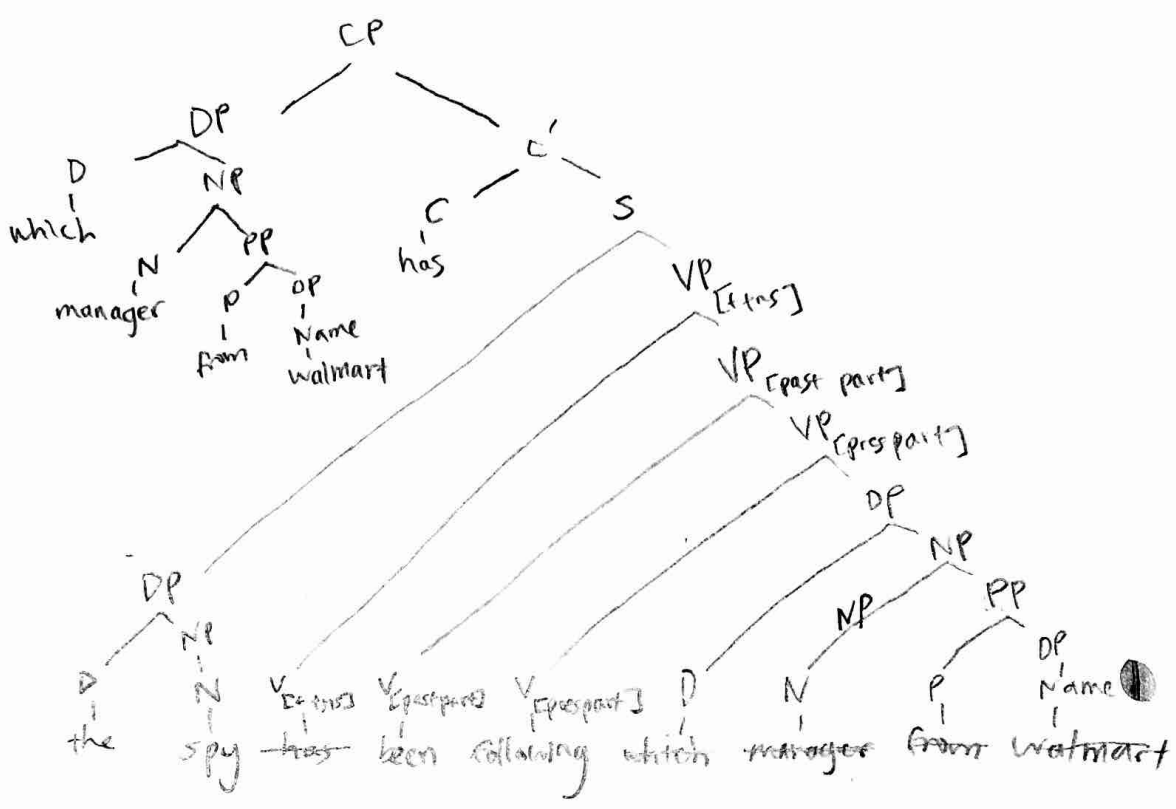
5 B, D, I, J, M, N, R, V

J saw m w/ b from W

+4

(4) (Syntactic tree with movement, 2pt) Draw a complete syntactic tree for the following sentence, You do not need to show morphological structures, but indicate features $[\pm\text{tns}]$, $[\text{prespart}]$, $[\text{pastpart}]$ on all Vs and VPs. Show movements by crossing out the moved elements, as was done in class and in the lecture notes.

Which manager from Walmart has the spy been following?



9/10

NP → NP PP

- (5) (Morphology, 1pt) Draw the complete morphological structure for this word, with the indicated morphemes:

cyber-terror-ism prepare-d-ness analys-t

To help with determining the parts of speech, consider these sentences:

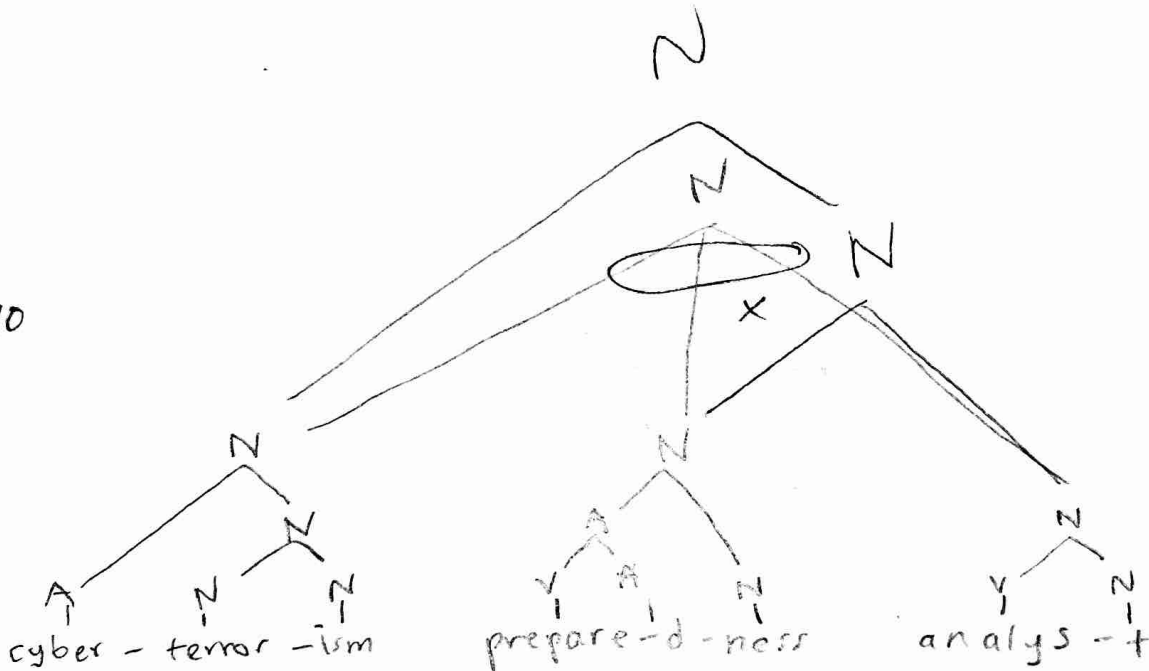
The terror can lurk in surprising places. The terrorism is planned.

The students prepare. The students are prepared. Your preparedness is assessed.

The government wants to analyze everything. The analyst gets paid rather poorly.

Now there are cyberterrorists, cyber-organisms (cyborgs), cyberpunks, cyberbullies, cybercrimes, and cyberforces.

2/10



(6) (Lexical information 1pt) In class, we had the excellent question of whether words that mean similar things have similar syntactic categories. One perspective on that issue that we did not explicitly discuss is the way the syntactic properties words with similar meanings seem to clump together. In learning a foreign language, this part takes some time! For example, *see* (in the sense of visually perceive) and *gaze* are related in meaning but have very different requirements:¹

- | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| * Joe saw | ← | * Joe gazed |
| Joe saw the manager | | * Joe gazed the manager |
| * Joe is seeing the manager ² | | * Joe is gazing the manager |
| * Joe saw at the manager | | Joe gazed at the manager |
| * Joe is seeing at the manager | | Joe is gazing at the manager |
| * Joe saw upon the manager | | Joe gazed upon the manager |
| * Joe saw with the manager | | * Joe gazed with the manager |
| Joe sees that the manager is a spy | | * Joe gazes that the manager is a spy |
| Joe sees the manager spying | | * Joe gazes the manager spying |

In these respects, for most American English speakers, *see* is like the verbs *detect*, *discern*, *feel*, *hear*, *notice*, *sense*, *smell*, *taste*. The different requirements of *gaze* are similar to the verbs *glance*, *glare*, *look*, *ogel*, *peek*, *peer*, *sniff*, *squint*, *stare*, *gape*, *gawk*. When considered at this level of detail, English verbs fall into hundreds of different groups ('verb classes') with different properties.

We gave this lexical entry given for *see* in class but it does not fit with all the examples given above:

word	category	arguments
<i>see</i>	V	<u>DP</u> DP

This says that *see* is a 'transitive verb'. That is, it selects a DP subject (underlined) and a DP complement. In the last example above, let's assume that [the manager spying] is a phrase with category SC[*prespart*]. (SC stands for 'small clause'). And assume that PP[at] is the category of prepositional phrases beginning with *at* (and similarly for other prepositions).

a. Add lexical entries for the other uses of *see* shown above (or extend the entry given above).

6/10

word	category	arguments
<i>see</i>	V	<u>DP</u> DP
<i>see</i>	V	<u>DP</u> SC[<i>prespart</i>]
<i>see</i>	V	<u>DP</u> PP[at] SC[<i>prespart</i>]

see | V | DP (CP) //WRONG

b. Construct lexical entries for *gaze* to fit the examples above.

word	category	arguments
<i>gaze</i>	V	<u>DP</u> PP[at]
<i>gaze</i>	V	<u>DP</u> PP[upon]

c. Are all the differences between *see* and *gaze* in the examples above predicted by your lexical entries? If not, which ones are not predicted? Briefly explain.

word	category	arguments
<i>see</i>	V	<u>DP</u> SC[<i>prespart</i>]

It appears to be missing a complementizer. ?

~~no~~

¹There is variation among speakers in judgements like these (no surprise - we all have different experiences with these verbs!). For the questions on this page, use these judgements.

²This is fine when *see* means 'meeting', but not when it means 'visually perceiving'.