

MSc Introduction to Syntax

Answers to exercises SK chapter 5

5.2 (1a) is unsatisfactory because it does not account for the fact that *houses on the corner* can be replaced by *ones* (see (i)) – *one* replaces an N' constituent, whereas in (1a) *houses on the corner* does not even form a constituent to the exclusion of *the*.

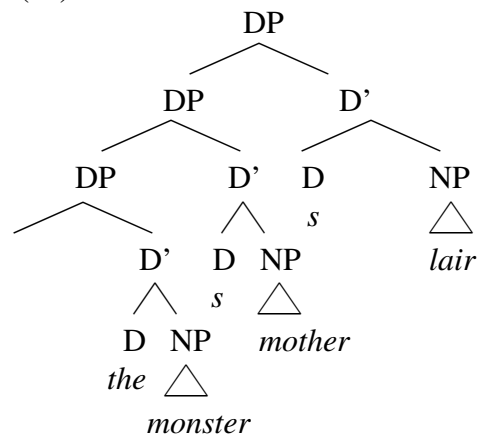
(i) The *houses on the corner* that were red and the *ones* that were blue.

Something similar is the case in (1b): *corner with a sign* can be replaced by *one* whereas in (1b) it is not a constituent:

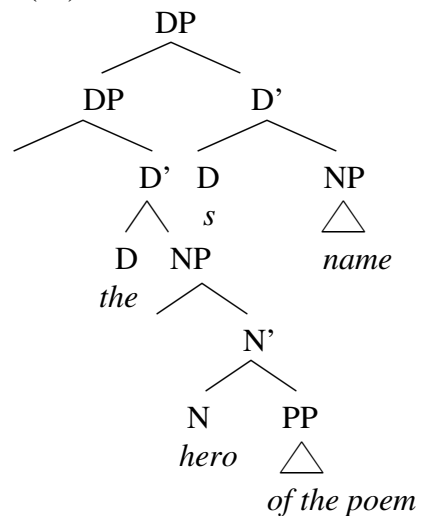
(ii) On the *corner with a sign* in Liverpool Road and on the *one* in George Square

5.4A

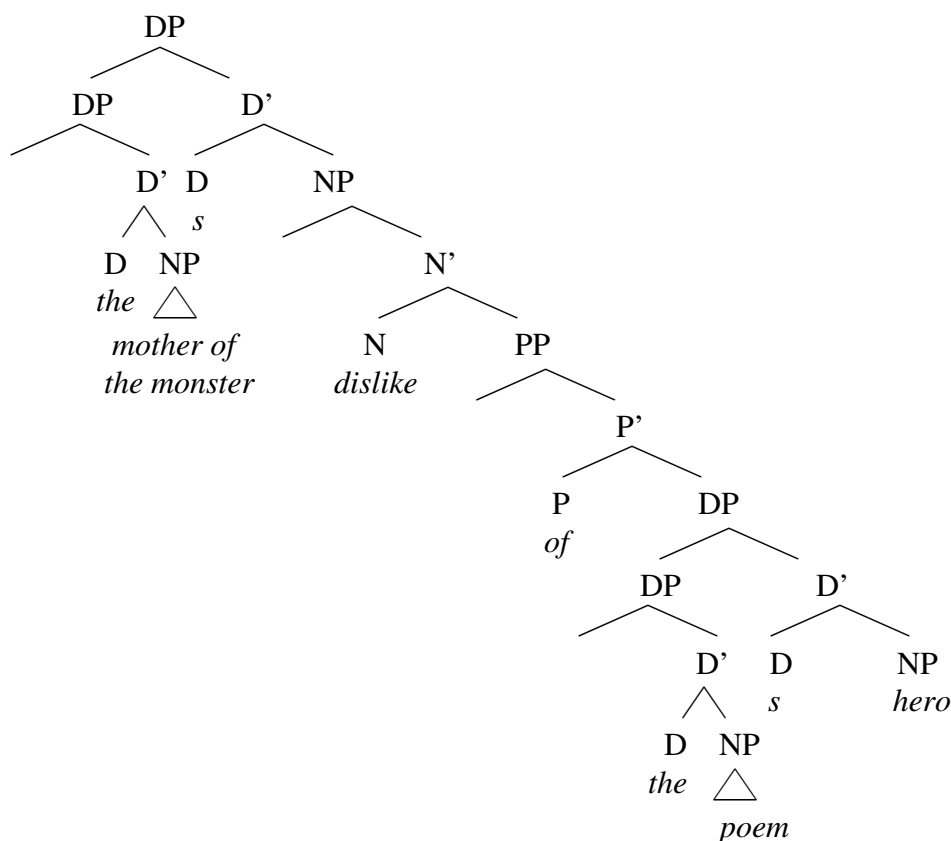
Structure of (1a):



Structure of (2a):



Structure of (3a):



5.6

A. The prepositions in (1a) are obligatorily transitive, whereas the ones in (1b) can be used intransitively:

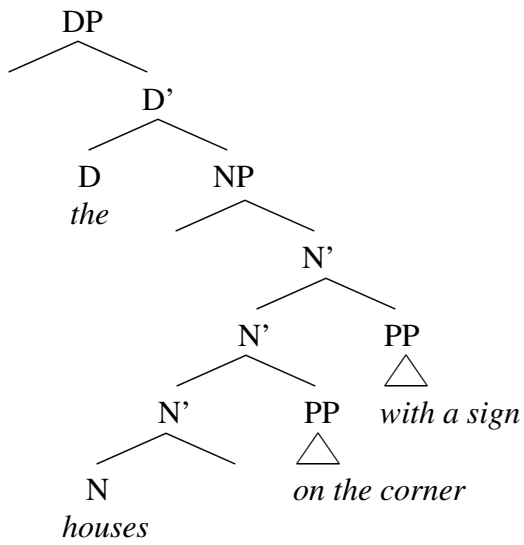
- (i)
 - a. She always looks at *(the latest film releases)
 - b. They are good friends despite *(all their differences)
 - c. They finished the job during *(their holiday)
- (ii)
 - a. She never comes along
 - b. There is not much else besides
 - c. Down under

B. *with* is usually transitive (*I saw him with *(some other people)*) but your test may find that certain complements to *with* need not appear. (In Dutch, for example, you can ask for *een patatje met*, meaning 'a chips with', with an implied complement 'mayonnaise' to *met* 'with').

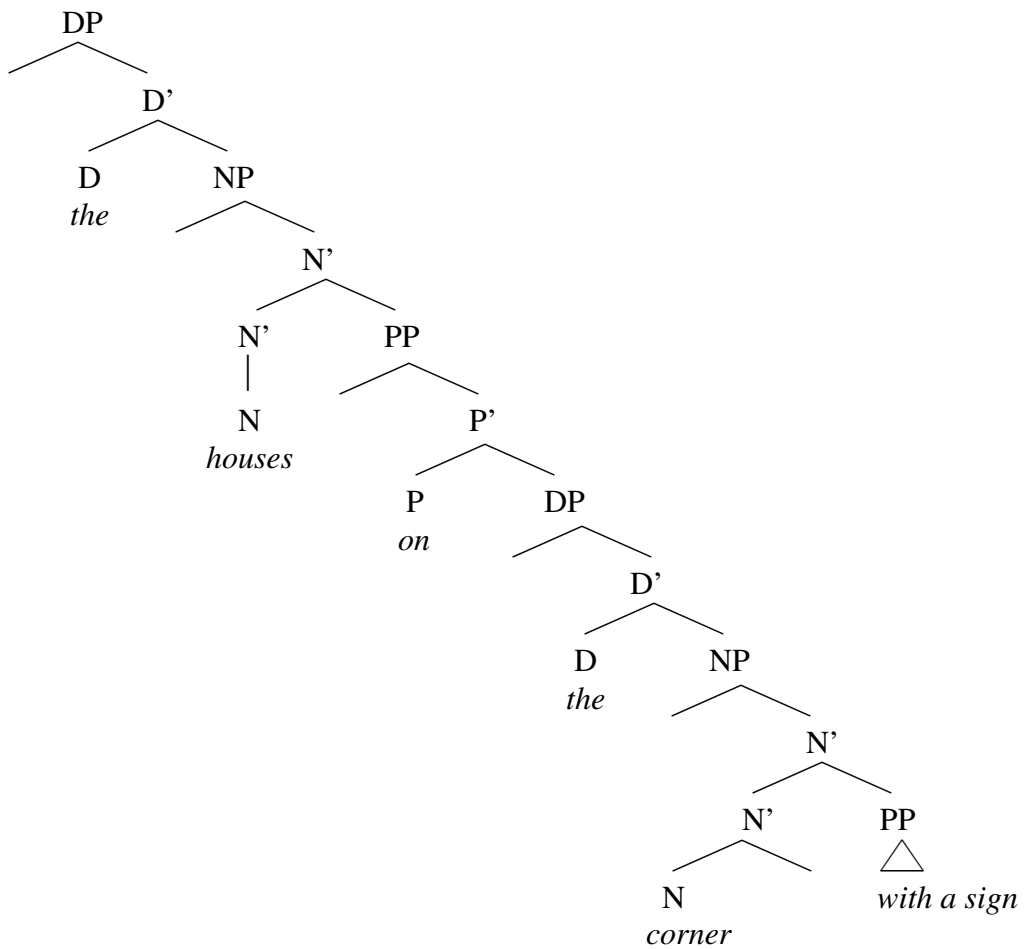
5.7

A.

Structure for (1) with interpretation (2a):

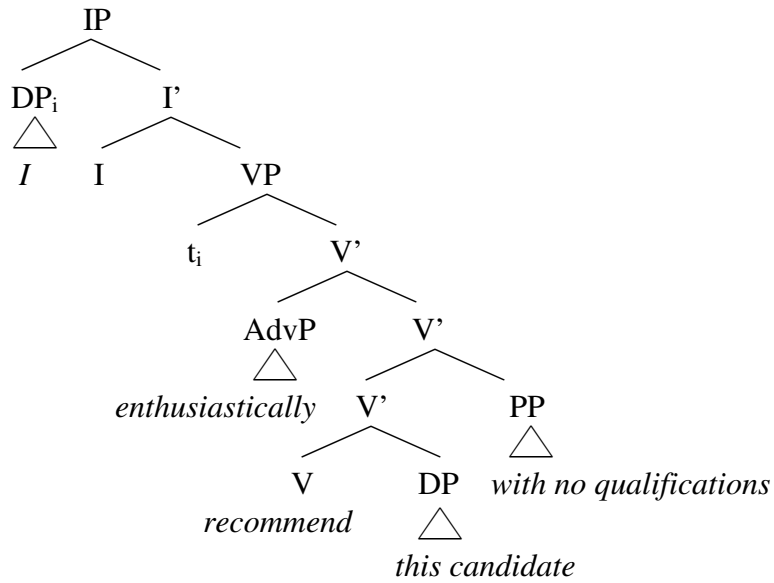


Structure for (1) with interpretation (2b):

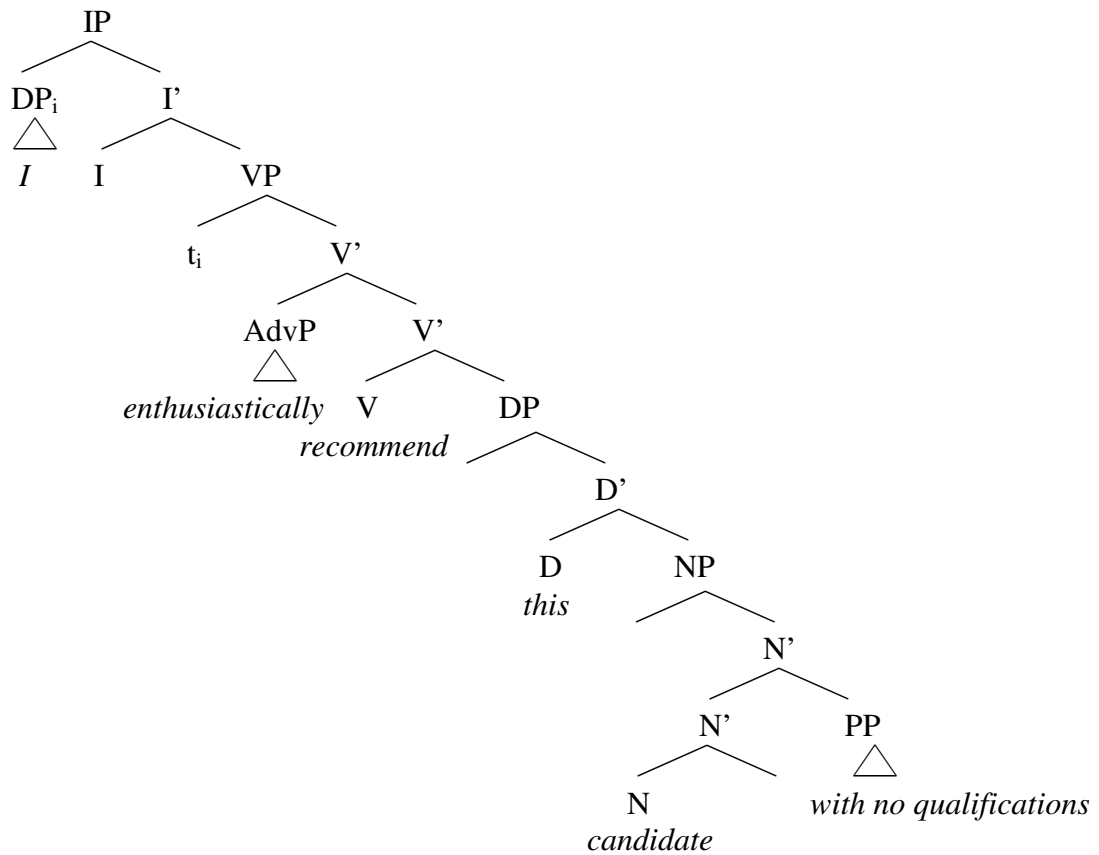


B.

Reading 1: I enthusiastically recommend this candidate, and I do so without any qualifications. Structure for (3) in this reading:



Reading 2: I enthusiastically recommend this candidate, who has no qualifications. Structure for (3) in this reading:



5.8C

This is impossible because, in this reading, the modifier *on its nose* would have to be adjoined to *the seal*, but the modifier *with the ball*, which intervenes between these two, should not be part of the same constituent, as (in this reading) it modifies the verb *tap*, not *the seal*. Hence, in this reading *the seal on its nose* should be a constituent to the exclusion of *with the ball*, which is impossible given the word order in (2).