

## Finite Clauses

Embedded and Coordinated

## Clause

- What is a clause?
  - A unit containing a lexical verb
- Kinds of clauses
  - Main clause = Independent clause = Superordinate clause = Matrix clause = S = Upstairs clause
  - Embedded clause = Dependent clause = Subordinate clause = S' (S-bar) = Downstairs clause

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## Find the Lexical Verbs

- Ever since the US Civil War the countries of Central America and the Caribbean have occupied a special place in the American psyche Cuba Nicaragua Panama and their neighbors have been a magnet for adventurers and pioneers a proving ground for grand abstractions of democracy and freedom and frequently they have given scoundrels a refuge for most of the twentieth century people knew them as banana republics by the 1980s a chain of clothing stores serving affluent customers in today's travel-mad world had adopted that name.

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## Here are the Lexical Verbs

- Ever since the US Civil War the countries of Central America and the Caribbean have occupied a special place in the American psyche. Cuba, Nicaragua, Panama, and their neighbors have been a magnet for adventurers and pioneers a proving ground for grand abstractions of democracy and freedom, and frequently they have given scoundrels a refuge. For most of the twentieth century people knew them as "banana republics"; by the 1980s, a chain of clothing stores serving affluent customers in today's travel-mad world had adopted that name.

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## Find the Lexical Verbs

- This was frontier territory a land where the whim of the adventurer was often the only law where Americans had limitless prerogatives and where people considered outside intruders malicious Senator Hannegan of Indiana saw something else he saw Britain hastening with race-horse speed to seize all of Central America Spain was the target of similar suspicions at the end of the century but was succeeded in turn by Germany Mexico and the Soviet Union each of these foreign powers was charged with importing ideologies alien to the natural order of the region

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## Here are the Lexical Verbs

- This was frontier territory, a land where the whim of the adventurer was often the only law, where Americans had limitless prerogatives, and where people considered outside intruders malicious. Senator Hannegan of Indiana saw something else. He saw Britain hastening 'with race-horse speed' to seize all of Central America. Spain was the target of similar suspicions at the end of the century, but was succeeded in turn by Germany, Mexico, and the Soviet Union. Each of these foreign powers was charged with importing ideologies alien to the natural order of the region.

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## Finite Clauses

- A finite clause contains a finite verb.
- Three tests for a finite verb:
  1. A finite verb agrees with the subject.
  2. A finite verb indicates present or past tense.
  3. A finite verb has a subject in nominative case.
- Modals are finite verbs, but they fail one test:
  - Modals don't display subject-verb agreement.

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## Sentence

- What is a sentence?
  - A sentence is everything between the capital letter and the period.
  - A sentence is a unit containing at least one lexical verb.
  - The subject of a sentence may or may not be expressed.
  - A sentence may contain more than one clause.

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## Functions of Clauses

- How can a subordinate clause function in the sentence?
  - As Subject
  - As Direct Object
  - As Subject Complement
  - As Adverbial

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## Functions of Clauses

1. That she left is fine.
2. The problem is that she reads junk.
3. He read books because it was required.
4. Sara noticed that the candies had disappeared.

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## Functions of Clauses

1. [That she left] is fine.
2. The problem is [that she reads junk].
3. He read books [because it was required].
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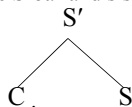
## Functions of Clauses

1. [That she left] is fine.  
SUBJECT
2. The problem is [that she reads junk].  
SUBJECT COMPLEMENT
3. He read books [because it was required].  
ADVERBIAL
4. Sara noticed [that the candies had disappeared].  
DIRECT OBJECT

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## C = Complementizer

- A complementizer connects two clauses, one of which is subordinate to the other.
- that, if, whether, because, unless, since are complementizers in English.
- The complementizer is daughter to the S-bar and sister to the S.
- The complementizer position is sometimes empty.
- Prepositions can function as complementizers.

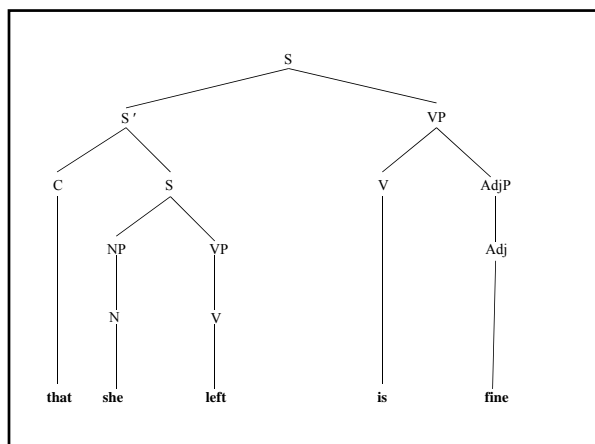


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## S-bar in Trees

- Draw trees for ...
  1. That she left is fine.
  2. The problem is that she reads junk.
  3. He read books because it was required.
  4. Sara noticed that the candies had disappeared.

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## Clauses as VP-Adverbials and S-Adverbials

- VP-adverbial
  - Desiree took a shower *because she felt tired*.
- S-adverbial
  - Desiree arrived home very late. *Because she felt tired* she took a shower.

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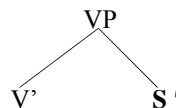
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## Clauses as VP-Adverbials and S-Adverbials

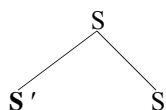
- If a clause is a VP-adverbial, it is sister to the V'.
- Desiree took a shower *because she felt tired*.



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## Clauses as VP-Adverbials and S-Adverbials

- If a clause is an S-adverbial, it is sister to the S.
- *Because she felt tired* she took a shower.



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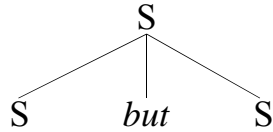
## Coordinate Clauses

- Complementizers join a subordinate clause to a main clause.
- Coordinators join equal clauses.
- But which is which?
  - Daniel arrived *but* Ana Maria had left.
  - Wisconsin is called the Badger State *but* Arnold Schwarzenegger is Governor of California.

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## Coordinator or Complementizer?

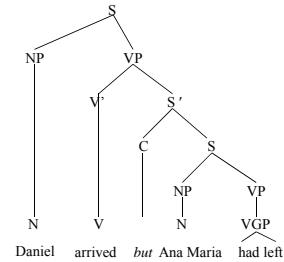
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## Coordinator or Complementizer?

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## Draw Trees

- Rachel noticed that candies disappear.
- Lauri suggested that the sketch was done by daughters of the architect.
- Leslie fussed that the main computer was down again.
- Troy censored books because he didn't like them.
- I heard that a manuscript has been stolen.
- Sidra didn't know if Ruth was unhappy.

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## Draw Trees

- Debby left the party because Chris arrived.
- Fortunately Zelda discovered that Zoltan hated her.
- Because the snow was bad, the traffic on the street became impossible.
- Jeff mentioned that Shelley had gone to the library without her rain coat.
- That two paintings were stolen from the Chazen Museum is false.
- Jake wondered whether that would happen.

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