More Semantics

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No American smokes.

No American smokes,

set of Americans set of people who smoke

No American smokes,

set of Americans set of people who smoke

no: the intersection of set #1 and set #2 is empty

No American smokes. Every Italian likes pasta.

no: the intersection of set #1 and set #2 is empty

No American smokes. Every Italian likes pasta.

no: the intersection of set #1 and set #2 is empty
every: set #1 is a subset of set #2

No American smokes. Every Italian likes pasta. Many Alaskans ice-fish.

no: the intersection of set #1 and set #2 is empty
every: set #1 is a subset of set #2

No American smokes. Every Italian likes pasta. Many Alaskans ice-fish.

no: the intersection of set #1 and set #2 is empty

- every: set #1 is a subset of set #2
- **many:** the intersection of set #1 and set #2 is "pretty large"

No American smokes.

No American smokes cigars.

No American smokes. entails No American smokes cigars.

No American smokes. entails doesn't entail No American smokes cigars.





No American smokes.



No American smokes.



No American smokes. -->No American smokes cigars.

"No" is **downward entailing**:

if "No A are B" is true, and C is a subset of B, then "No A are C" is also true.

"No" is **downward entailing**:

If "No American smokes" is true, and <u>cigar smokers</u> are a subset of <u>smokers</u>, then "No American smokes cigars" is also true.

Is "every" downward entailing?

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Every American smokes

Every American smokes cigars

Is "every" downward entailing?

Every American smokes doesn't entail Every American smokes cigars

Is "every" downward entailing?

Every American smokes doesn't entail Every American smokes cigars

--> no.

No one lifted a finger to help. No one contributed a red cent. No one saw anything.

No one lifted a finger to help. No one contributed a red cent. No one saw anything.

*Everyone lifted a finger to help. *Everyone contributed a red cent. *Everyone saw anything.

No one <u>lifted a finger</u> to help. No one contributed <u>a red cent</u>. No one saw <u>anything</u>.

*Everyone <u>lifted a finger</u> to help. *Everyone contributed <u>a red cent</u>. *Everyone saw <u>anything</u>.

-->what's with these expressions?



downward entailing?

no	
every	X
few	
a few	X
most	X
more than ten	X
less than ten	

downward entailing?

no

- every X *
- few √
- a few x
- most x
- more than ten x
- less than ten γ

- √ <u>no student</u> did anything...
- X *<u>every student</u> did anything...

downward entailing?

no

every

few

a few

most

more than ten less than ten

- $\sqrt{\text{no student}}$ did anything...
- X *<u>every student</u> did anything...
- $\sqrt{\text{few students}}$ did anything...
- X *<u>a few students</u> did anything...
- X *<u>most students</u> did anything...
- X *more than ten students did anything
 - $\sqrt{1}$ less than ten students did anything...

No one <u>lifted a finger</u> to help. No one contributed <u>a red cent</u>. No one saw <u>anything</u>.

*Everyone <u>lifted a finger</u> to help. *Everyone contributed <u>a red cent</u>. *Everyone saw <u>anything</u>.

-->these expressions must be in a **downward entailing context**.

John didn't <u>lift a finger</u> to help. John didn't contribute <u>a red cent</u>. John didn't see <u>anything</u>.

*John <u>lifted a finger</u> to help.
*John contributed <u>a red cent</u>.
*John saw <u>anything</u>.

-->what's licensing these expressions here?

John doesn't smoke.

John doesn't smoke cigars.

John doesn't smoke. entails John doesn't smoke cigars.

John doesn't smoke. entails John doesn't smoke cigars.

--> *not* creates a downward entailing context.

Expressions like *lift a finger, a red cent*, and *anything* are **Negative Polarity Items** (NPIs)

-->need to be in a downward entailing context.

VP-ellipsis:

John bought a book, and Mary did _____ too.

VP-ellipsis:

John bought a book, and Mary did too. "buy a book"

identity condition on VP-ellipsis:

John bought a book, and Mary did "buy a book" *"sell an okapi"

VP-ellipsis:

John bought a book, and Mary did too. "buy a book"

John dislikes his father, and Bill does _____ too.

VP-ellipsis:

John bought a book, and Mary did too. "buy a book"

John dislikes his father, and Bill does too. "dislike his (J or B's) father"

Quantifiers and EllipsisAntecedent Contained Deletion (ACD) John visited every city [that Mary did __]

Quantifiers and Ellipsis Antecedent Contained Deletion (ACD) John visited every city [that Mary did ___]





















John refused to visit every city Mary visited.

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> John said, "I won't visit every city Mary visited"

> John said, "I won't visit Paris, London, or Tuscaloosa" (and those are the cities Mary visited)

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John refused to visit every city Mary did _____.

2 ambiguities:

• "visit" vs. "refuse to visit"

John refused to visit every city Mary did _____.

2 ambiguities:

- "visit" vs. "refuse to visit"
- John's refusal mentions "every city", or not.

John refused to visit every city Mary did ____.

2 ambiguities:

- "visit" vs. "refuse to visit"
- John's refusal mentions "every city", or not.

in principle, 4 readings:

- John said, "I refuse to visit Paris, Rome, or Tuscaloosa" (and Mary had visited these cities)
- John said, "I refuse to visit Paris, Rome, or Tuscaloosa" (and Mary had refused to visit these cities)

John refused to visit every city Mary did _____.

2 ambiguities:

- "visit" vs. "refuse to visit"
- John's refusal mentions "every city", or not.

in principle, 4 readings:

- John said, "I refuse to visit Paris, Rome, or Tuscaloosa" (and Mary had visited these cities)
- John said, "I refuse to visit Paris, Rome, or Tuscaloosa" (and Mary had refused to visit these cities)
- John said, "I refuse to visit every city Mary visits"
- John said, "I refuse to visit every city Mary refuses to visit"

John refused to visit every city Mary did _____.

2 ambiguities:

- "visit" vs. "refuse to visit"
- John's refusal mentions "every city", or not.

in fact, only 3 readings:

- John said, "I refuse to visit Paris, Rome, or Tuscaloosa" (and Mary had visited these cities)
- John said, "I refuse to visit Paris, Rome, or Tuscaloosa" (and Mary had refused to visit these cities)
- John said, "I refuse to visit every city Mary visits"
- John said, "I refuse to visit every city Mary refuses to visit"

But why? To be continued....