

24.900: Introduction to Linguistics

Review for Quiz #1

1. Review the difference between bound and free morphemes.
2. Be able to indicate the correct internal structure of a word in terms of its morphemes via bracketing or simple trees.
3. What is the difference between prescriptive and descriptive linguistics? What do we focus on?
4. What are Phrase Structure Rules?
5. How do we test for movement within a sentence?
6. Review the various syntactic tests that were used in order to determine:
 - a. constituent structure
 - b. adjunct vs. complement
 - c. movement
7. Be able to explain why *flat* tree structures do not allow us to accurately capture hierarchical syntactic generalizations about natural language.
8. Be able to indicate differences between sentences that are structurally ambiguous. You will be asked to demonstrate this with constituent brackets as you did in problem sets.
9. Review what subcategorization is all about. What kinds of information do we need to know with respect to a lexical entry? Why?
10. Review the three binding principles for R-expressions, pronouns and reflexives.
11. You will be asked to consider a data set. You will need to answer questions about the linguistic data. You will also be asked to draw a few trees to illustrate your points. You will not be asked to draw trees with embedded clauses (complex sentences). You may be asked to draw a tree that indicates WH-movement, however.

12. Be prepared to determine whether certain constructions are acceptable or not. And, if not, why not? What principle for example is violated?

The quiz will not take any longer than 45 minutes. It will be given on Wednesday, March 16, in class.

If you have any questions, please contact us via email, during office hours or make an appointment.