

* Chapter 8

1

X-bar theory 'overgenerates' & generates ungrammatical sentences.

↳ Complements are optional.

- Certain verbs require objects, tups, or non.

↳ Uses Lexicon, Theta roles, Theta criterion to limit it.

The Lexicon.

The store of information about particular words.

⊗ "Pronunciation of word, morphological irregularities, meaning..."

* Subcategories of verbs.

Intransitive	[NP ₋]	⊗ arrive
Transitive 1	[NP ₋ v NP]	hit
Transitive 2	[NP ₋ v (NP/CP)]	ask
Ditransitive 1	[NP ₋ NP NP]	spare
11 4 2	[NP ₋ NP PP]	put
4 4 3	[NP ₋ NP (NP/PP)]	give
4 4 4	[NP ₋ NP C NP/PP/CP]	tell

Selectional Restrictions ⊗ Limit the semantic properties of arguments.

⊗ My toothbrush loves raisins X semantic

* Thematic Relations. ^{Nouns} Describe the semantic properties of arguments.

1) **Agent** is initiator of the action, capable of volition.
 e.g. Brad hit Andrew.

X 2) **Natural Phenomenon** is initiator of action, incapable of volition.
 e.g. A falling rock hit Terry.

3) **Experiencer** is the argument that experiences or perceives the event.
 e.g. Becky saw the Eclipse. * it has to be associated with verbal emotion, perception or cognition.

4) **Theme** "Patient & Percept". The entity that undergo actions, are moved, experienced or perceived.
 e.g. Susanna loves Cookies.

5) **Goal** is the entity towards which motion takes place.
 e.g. A falling rock hit Terry.

6) **Recipient** is a special kind of goal that involves a change of possession.
 e.g. Julie gave Jessica the book. Roy received a Juggling from Shenlyn.

7) **Source** is the opposite of goal, entity from which movement occurs.
 e.g. Bob gave Steve the assignment.

8) Location: Place where action occurs.
 ∴ We are all at school.

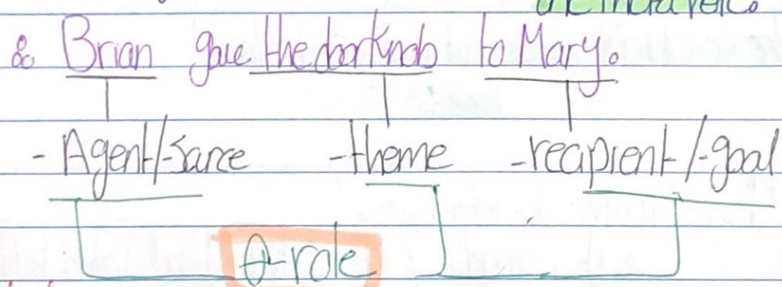
9) Instrument: The entity which action occurs.
 ∴ This key will open the door. ∴ Jessica cut the cake with a knife.

10) Beneficiary: The entity for whom the action occurs.
 ∴ I baked Sara a cake. ∴ He bought these flowers for Jason.

Theta Roles: θ -role

bundle of thematic relations associated with a particular argument.

* on argument can have many thematic relations, but only one theta role.



* Theta grids

(Put) require Agent, theme, goal.

∴ [John]_i put [the book]_j [on the table]_k

Put	Agent/-source	Theme	Goal
	NP	NP	PP
	i	j	k

* Adjunct- θ not included in theta grids.



- optional

∴ on Friday.

Theta Criterion

- every argument must have one theta role
- Every theta role must be assigned to one argument

i (Lae)

[megan] loves [Kevin]

Experiencer	Theme
NP	NP
i	j

X-bar rule generate trees.

→ checked against constraints to make sure they're okay.

The constraints filter out badly constructed trees.

*NP without theta roles.

e.g. it rained. / it's likely that Bob left.

[expletives / pleonastics]

two kinds of 'it'.

It bit me on the leg.

Pronoun

It is likely that I'll leave.

expletive

* ('Whether' & 'Propositional' verbs.

∴ rain → takes no arguments.

∴ is likely → Proposition
CP
↓
I

∴ is likely that John will leave

"EPP" Extended Projection Principle.

every sentence must have a subject.

* ('am' violate EPP.

Rule of Expletive insertion.

- insert on CP's subject position.

↳ occurs to save the derivation.

↳ order of operations.

↓

X-bar rules "build trees" → Theta criterion "check trees" - rule of
Expletive Insertion "insert CP" → EPP & binding conditions.

↓
Judgments