

# LING2005 Syntax I

## Tutorial: Phrases II

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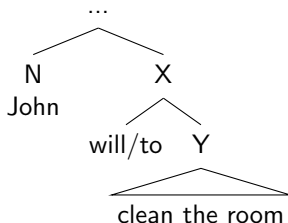
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

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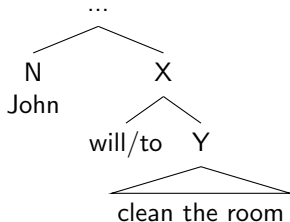


- During the lecture, it was proposed that “will” and “to” share a similar syntactic structure in (3).
- 1 John **will** clean the room.
- 2 Mary wants John **to** clean the room.





- 1 John **will** clean the room.
- 2 Mary wants John **to** clean the room.



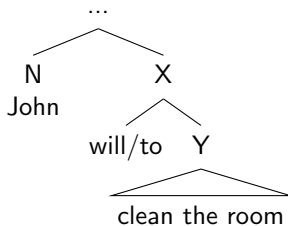
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- Discuss the evidence that supports the structure. In particular, you need to justify the constituency of X and Y.
- To justify the constituency of X (i.e. “will clean the room” and “to clean the room”), one can apply the coordination test to obtain positive evidence.
  - (a) John will clean the room and may take out the trash.To justify the constituency of Y (i.e. “clean the room”), one can apply the substitution test, coordination test, topicalization test, pseudo-cleft test and ellipsis test to obtain positive evidence.
  - (b) John will clean the room and Mary will do so too.
  - (c) Clean the room, John will, but cook the meal, John will not.
  - (d) What John will do is clean the room.
  - (e) John will clean the room and Mary will too.



- ① John **will** clean the room.
- ② Mary wants John **to** clean the room.



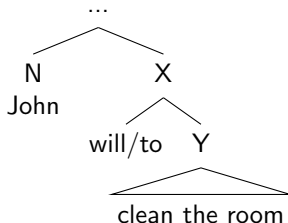
- ③ What is the difficulty of extending the structure in (3) to sentences involving present and past tense (4)?
- ④ John cleans/cleaned the room.



- ③ What is the difficulty of extending the structure in (3) to sentences involving present and past tense (4)?
- ④ John cleans/cleaned the room.
- If all tense markers share the same structure, we have to assume that -ed or -s should appear before the verb. However, unlike the future tense marker, the present and past tense markers do not occur as a separate word in front of the verb. Rather they show up as the suffix on the verb. The unexpected word order makes the extension of (3) to sentences involving present and past tense (4) difficult.



- ① John **will** clean the room.
- ② Mary wants John **to** clean the room.
- ④ John cleans/cleaned the room.



- © What kinds of evidence suggest that the present/past tense marker may indeed associate with a position before the verb?

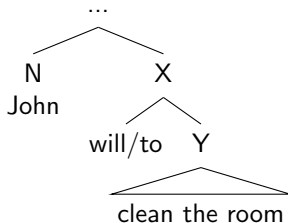


- What kinds of evidence suggest that the present/past tense marker may indeed associate with a position before the verb?
- Present/Past tense markers are separable under some grammatical environments:
  - Pseudo-cleft
    - (a) What John did is clean the room. / What John does is clean the room.
  - Ellipsis
    - (b) John cleaned the room and Mary did too. / John cleans the room and Mary does too.
  - Emphatic use
    - (c) John did clean the room. / John does clean the room.
  - Negation (a bit more indirect evidence)
    - (d) John did not clean the room. / John does not clean the room.





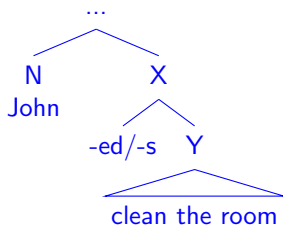
- ① John **will** clean the room.
- ② Mary wants John **to** clean the room.
- ④ John cleans/cleaned the room.



- ④ What is the proposal that has been put forward to address the problem discussed in (B) and (C)? What is the evidence to support the proposal?



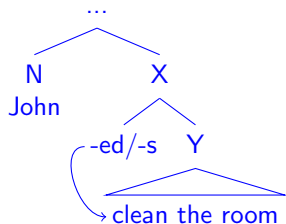
- ④ What is the proposal that has been put forward to address the problem discussed in (B) and (C)? What is the evidence to support the proposal?
- Due to the evidence in (C), it is not unreasonable to assume that all tense markers share the same structure in (3). The problem is how to explain why the sentences do not come out as (4).



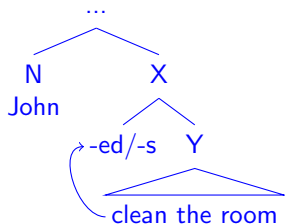
- ④ John -s/-ed clean the room.



- Two proposals have been considered, i.e. affixing lowering vs. verb raising.

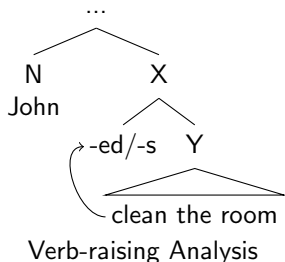
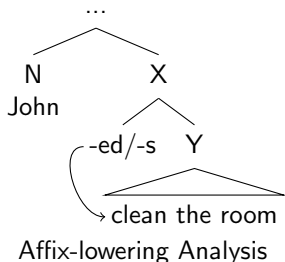


Affix-lowering Analysis



Verb-raising Analysis

- Though both analyses can generate (4), there is evidence that the affix-lowering analysis is better. Please refer to the discussion in the lecture handout.



- A constituent may be moved from its original position to another position, resulting in the surface representation
  - (...in terms of the syntactic theory we are learning in this course)
- For now, just memorize the above two examples.
- We will cover movements much later, with a systematic introduction



- **Assignment 1 due this Saturday**
- **Midterm: Oct 18, in class, closed-book**
- Please scan the QR code and complete the attendance form