

Basic Sentence Structure

Special Sentences

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- sentence types
 - * declarative
 - * interrogative
 - * imperative
 - * exclamation
- displacements
 - * wh-movement
 - * topicalisation
 - * passive
 - * cleft
 - * pseudo-cleft

Sentence types

syntactic typology of clauses

ii. **declarative** sentence (also 'indicative')

- typical use: make a statement

iii. **interrogative** sentence

- typical use: ask a question
- Yes/No question
- *wh*-question

iv. **imperative** sentence

- typical use: give a directive

v. **exclamative** sentence

- typical use: make an exclamation

(based on Aarts p.58-63)

Declarative sentences

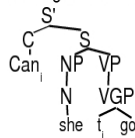
- usually display unmarked word order
- (normally) subject is present and precedes the finite verb
 - (a) She has gone.
 - (b) (It) looks like rain - situative ellipsis
- default pragmatics: statement
- non-default uses
 - (c) She has gone?
 - question (with rising intonation)
 - (d) You haven't closed the door.
 - directive (i.e. order to close the door)

Interrogative sentences (1)

- **Yes/No questions**
 - appropriate answer: *yes* or *no* (or *perhaps/maybe*)
 - auxiliary is fronted or dummy *do* is inserted
 - (a) Has she _i gone?
 - (b) Did_i you _{t_i} see Santa?
- ***wh*-questions**
 - main clause: starts with *wh*-element, auxiliary in second position
 - (c) Who_i will you see _{t_i}?
 - (d) How heavy_i is that package _{t_i}?
 - evidence for trace: echo-question
 - (e) You saw WHOM?

Interrogative sentences (2)

- fronted auxiliary is moved to C
- complementiser and auxiliary compete for this position
- (a) * I wondered whether can she go
- interrogatives = S'-structures



Interrogative sentences (3)

- Subject *wh*-questions - no dummy *do*
 - (a) Who saw him?
- subordinate questions (indirect questions)
 - no subject-auxiliary inversion
 - yes/no question
 - (b) I wonder whether/if she has gone.
 - *wh*-question
 - (c) I wonder what_i she saw _{t_i}.
 - (d) I wonder how heavy_i the package is _{t_i}.
- non-default use: directive
 - (e) Can you be quiet?