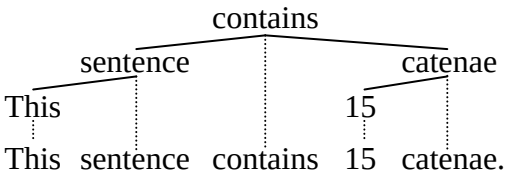
CATENAE

Cambridge

Catena: A WORD OR A COMBINATION OF WORDS THAT IS CONTINUOUS WITH RESPECT TO DOMINANCE



"Catena" is the Latin word for 'chain'.

According to the definition, **any tree or subtree of a tree is a catena**.

Individual words (**5**): *this*, *sentence*, *contains*, *15*, *catenae*;

Word combinations (**9**): *This sentence*, *This sentence contains*, *This sentence contains…catenae*, *sentence contains*, *sentence contains…catenae*, *sentence contains 15 catenae*, *contains…catenae*, *contains 15 catenae* and *15 catenae*;

The entire sentence (**1**). **5+9+1=15**

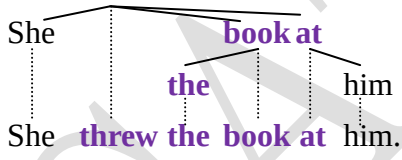
Total number of word combinations = 2^{5}(= number of words) **-1** = **31**

Number of non-catena word combinations = **31** – **15** = **16**

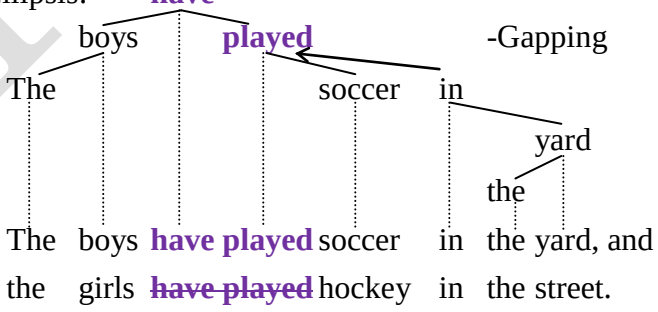
Non-catenae word combinations (**16**): *This…contains*, *This…15*, *This…catenae*, *This…contains 15*, *This…contains…catenae*, *This…contains 15 catenae*, *This…15 catenae*, *sentence…15*, *sentence…catenae*, *sentence contains 15*, *sentence…15 catenae*, *contains 15*, *This sentence…15*, *This sentence…catenae*, *This sentence…15 catenae*, *This sentence contains 15*

The catena is central to the analysis of IDIOMS, ELLIPSIS, PREDICATES, CONSTRUCTIONS, DISPLACEMENT and of many other phenomena.

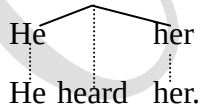
Idioms: **threw**

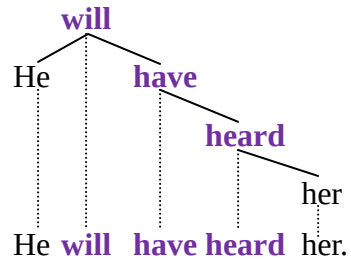


Ellipsis: **have**

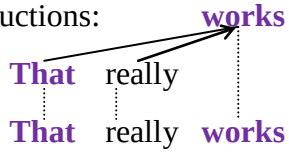


Predicates: **heard**





Constructions: **works**



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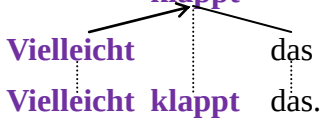
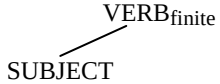


SV-construction of English



V2-construction of German

RISING

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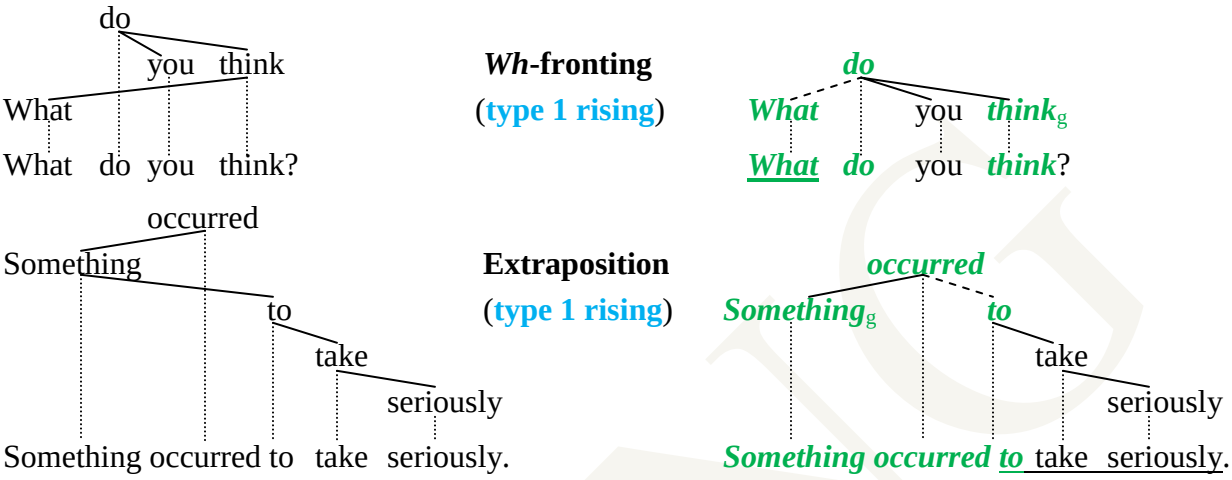
Rising is the means by which projectivity violations (=discontinuities, displacements) are "overcome".

Standard projectivity violations here on the left:

Projectivity violations overcome via rising here on the right:

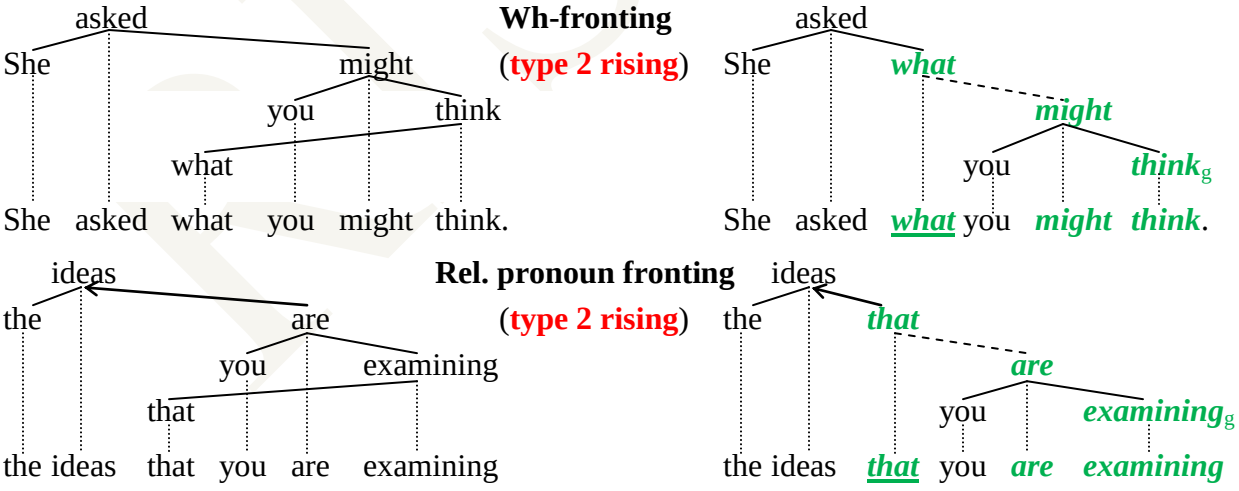


Rising Principle
It must be the case that either
(i) the head of the risen catena or (type 1 rising)
(ii) the risen catena itself (type 2 rising)
dominates the governor of the risen catena.

The dashed---dependency edge indicates the presence of rising; the **underline** identifies the risen catena; the **g-subscript** marks the governor of the risen catena; and the ***italics*** mark the **rising catena**.

Standard projectivity violations here on the left:

Projectivity violations overcome via rising here on the right:



Type 1 rising is characteristic of *wh*-fronting in matrix clauses, topicalization, extraposition, and scrambling. **Type 2 rising** is characteristic of *wh*-fronting in subordinate clauses and relative proform fronting. **Rising catenae** are key to exploring the nature of these discontinuity types.

Morph Catenae

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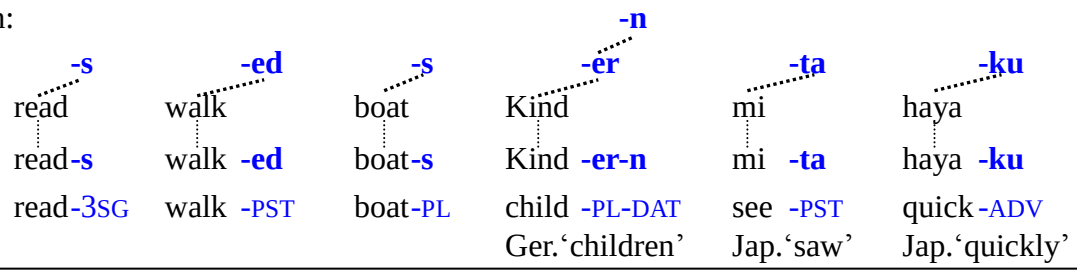
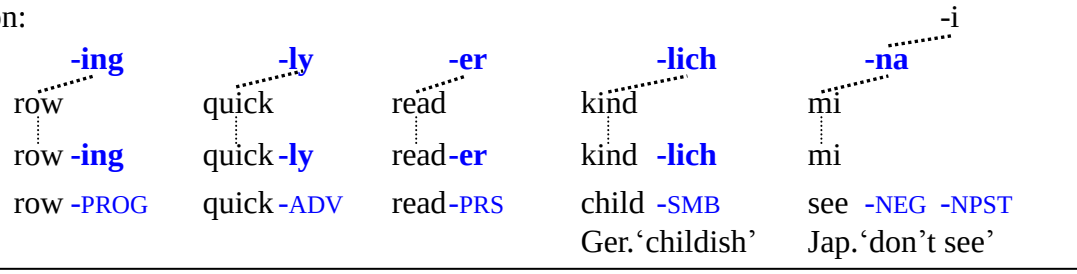
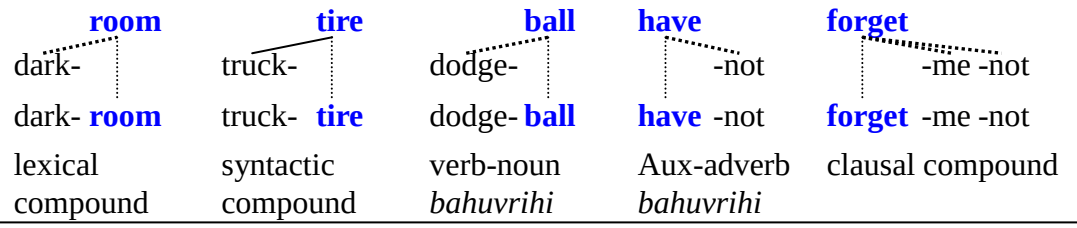
Inflection:



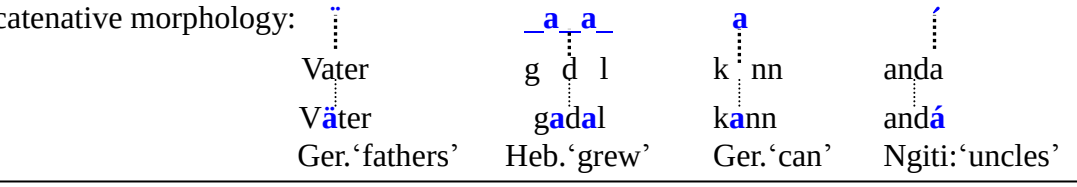
Derivation:



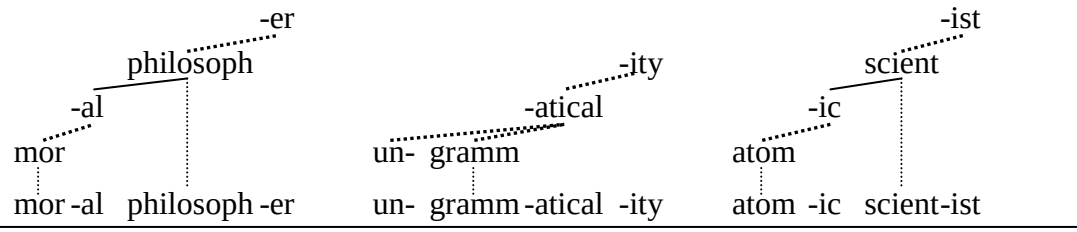
Compounds:



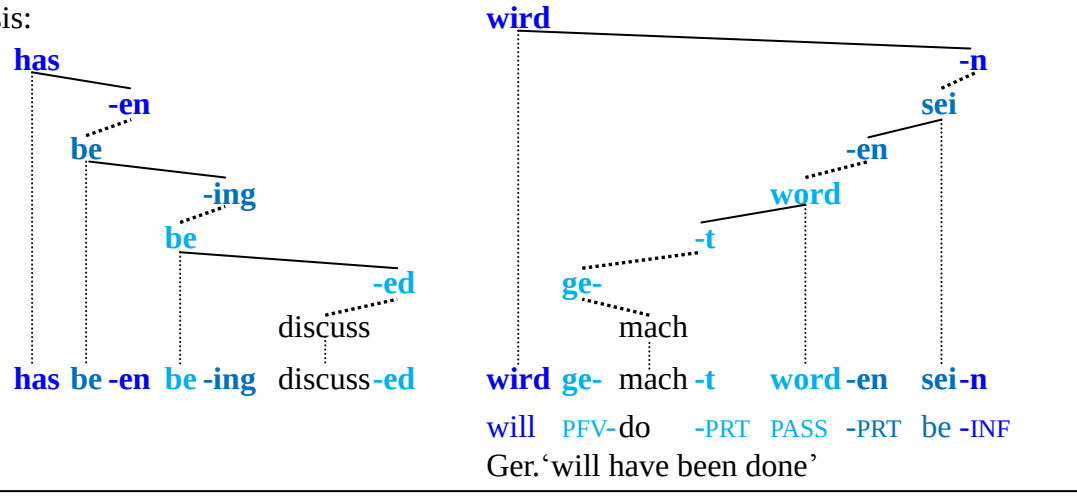
Non-concatenative morphology:



Bracketing paradoxes:



Periphrasis:



Clitics

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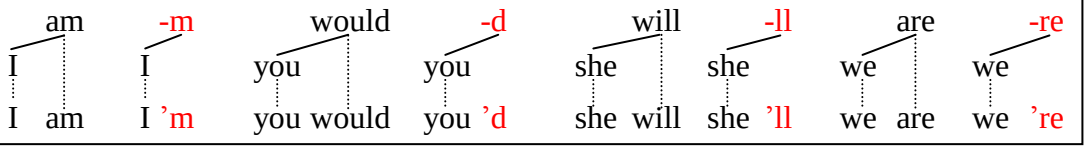
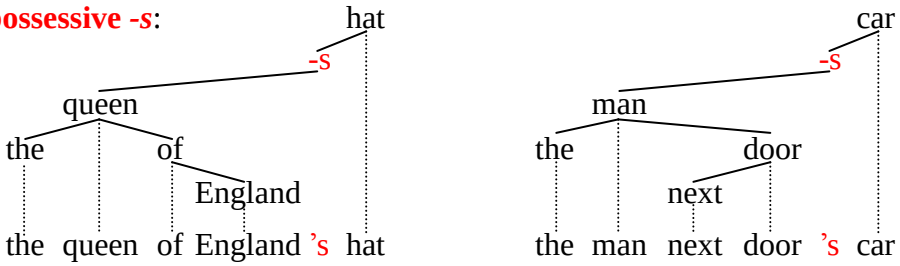
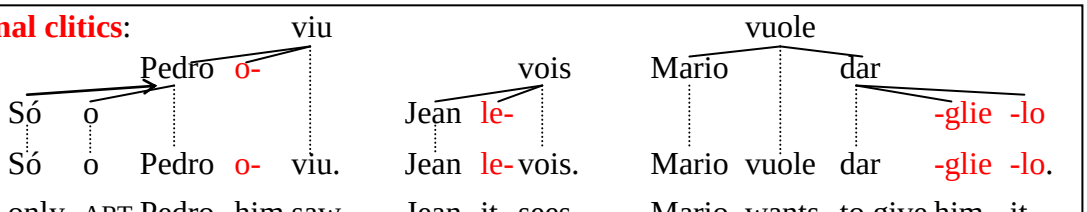
Simple clitics:



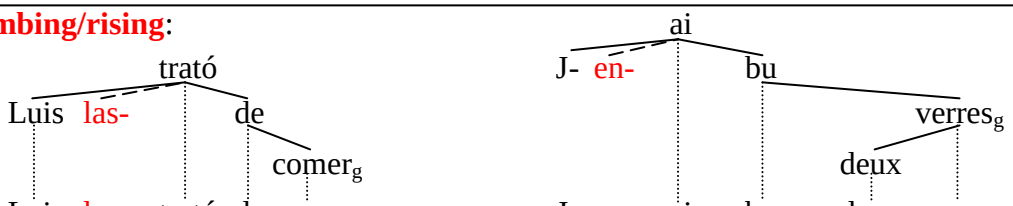
English possessive -s:



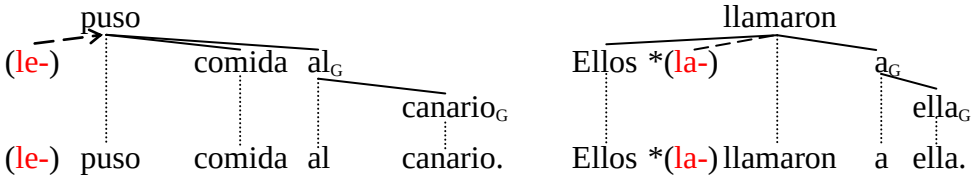
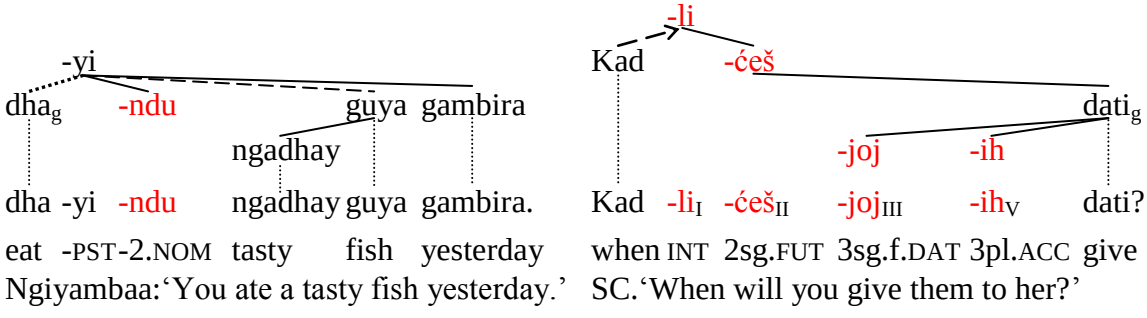
Pronominal clitics:



Clitic climbing/rising:



Clitic doubling:



Wackernagel/Second-position clitics: