



Constituents

- I. Introduction
 - a. Part of a construction (the bricks)
 - b. Usually only two constituents in a construction
 - c. Noun Phrase (NP), Verb Phrase (VP), Adjective Phrase (AdjP), Prepositional Phrase (PrepP), more later.
 - d. Right now some judgment is required, less so once we know more of the grammar.
 - e. "John and" doesn't work as a constituent – it makes no sense on its own.
- II. Noun Phrase (NP)
 - a. Noun is at the head ("governing body")
 - b. Everything else is a *modifier*
 - c. Constituents
 - i. Determiner (the, my, this, ...)
 - ii. Quantifier (few, three dozen)
 - d. Other modifiers
 - i. Nouns
 1. gold watch vs. golden sunset
 - a. "golden" is clearly an adjective
 - b. "gold is a noun *acting as* an adjective
 2. blood sample vs. bloody sample
 - ii. Genitive NP
 1. Sally's dog: (N)Adj ^ N
 2. Optional to write (N) but correct
 - iii. Verb (id est participles)
 1. running water: (V)Adj ^ N or Adj ^ N
 2. neglected child: (V)Adj ^ N
 - iv. Adverbs
 1. Same thing
 2. outside entrance: (Adv)Adj ^ N
 - e. Appositives
 - i. Renames a noun phrase.
 - ii. The appositive itself is also a noun phrase.
 - iii. Restrictive / Non-Restrictive
 1. This is critical, especially when we get to relative clauses
 2. Not critical to comprehension yet necessarily.
 3. Restrictive
 - a. Is this information critical to understanding the meaning?
 - b. Normally no pause in speech, no commas in writing
 4. Non-Restrictive
 - a. No crucial information.
 - b. Pause before and/or after the appositive
 5. Example: his house, the yellow one: *non-restrictive*
 6. Gauges
 - a. Do you need to know it (yes = restrictive)
 - b. Commas? (yes = non-restrictive)
 - c. Pause? (yes = non-restrictive)
- III. Adjective Phrases
 - a. Usually only called an adjective phrase when it occurs alone.
 - b. "The house is yellow." or "The house is really yellow."
 - c. When attached to a noun, it's usually *not* called an adjective phrase.
 - d. An adjective is the head.
 - e. Premodifiers
 - i. All are adverbs
 - ii. *very* beautiful, *dark* brown, *extremely* happy

- iii. Intensifiers, regular adverbs
- f. Some adjective phrases require a complement
 - i. A complement is something required for the meaning to be clear.
 - ii. "She is very fond" requires a complement
 - iii. apt, adverse, fond, tantamount, loath, subject
- IV. Prepositional Phrases
 - a. A preposition is the head.
 - b. Always has a complement, usually a noun phrase.
 - c. Complex prepositions
 - i. A whole series of words called a preposition
 - ii. "according to", "in front of", "in relation to", "by means of"
 - iii. Could break these apart into individual words but we usually don't.
- V. Adverbial Phrases
 - a. Often the adverb is the only constituent
 - b. Sometimes intensifiers are included
 - c. Meaning: how, when, where, why
 - d. Semantically: Locatives, Manner, Time, Frequency, Purpose
 - e. Adverbs modify verbs, adjectives, adverbs.
 - f. An adverb is telling more about those words or it is answering one of the questions above.
 - g. Complement vs. Adjunct
 - i. Complements are required. Adjuncts are optional.
 - ii. The requirement refers to *grammar*, not meaning. Removing the word may change the meaning of the sentence, but if the sentence still makes sense the word is optional.
 - h. Conjunctive Adjectives
 - i. Half conjunction, half adverb
 - ii. however, moreover, nevertheless, furthermore
 - i. Disjuncts
 - i. These comment on the entire sentence, not just on the verb.
 - ii. Could also just call these "adverbs" but "disjunct" is more specific
 - iii. "Hopefully" is *not* a disjunct! Don't use it in formal writing
 - 1. "Hopefully, we will find..." is bad
 - 2. "We hope that we will find..." is better.
- VI. Verb Phrase
 - a. Verb + Complement/s + Predicate Adjunct/s
 - b. Direct Object = Complement
 - c. We pack a lot of meaning into our verbs
 - d. Time / Tense
 - i. "Finite Verb" just means one that's marked for tense
 - ii. "Non-Finite verbs have no tense marking (this includes the *infinitive* form)
 - e. Modality
 - i. Refers to "mood"
 - ii. Modals: can / could, may / might, will / would, shall / should, must
 - iii. Periphrastic Modals
 - 1. Phrases that mean the same thing as a modal
 - 2. Example: can → "be able to"
 - b. Aspect
 - i. Duration, continuation, repetition
 - ii. Combine words to make "aspectual markers"
 - iii. Perfective
 - 1. Formed by "have" + the -en form of some verb (past participle)
 - 2. In regular verbs (hop → hopped → hopped) the so-called -en form really ends with -ed.
 - 3. Present Perfect: has moped
 - 4. Past Perfect: had moped

5. Want to show a period of time:
6. She moped all day before being sent to her room ("past time before past time")

iv. Progressive

1. "be" + some -ing verb
2. Present Progressive: He is moping
3. Past Progressive: She was moping when...
4. Indicates an ongoing action in the past.

v. Perfect Progressive

1. "have" + -en be + -ing verb
2. Present Perfect Progressive: "Has been moping"
3. Past Perfect Progressive: "Had been moping"

vi. Future

1. Future Perfect: "will have finished"
2. Future Progressive: "will be finishing"
3. Future Perfect Progressive: "will have been moping"