

Assignment #2: Wambaya and Monsters

Part II. Bresnan textbook p. 327, Prob. Set P1.2, 'Monsters and how to avoid them'. (Do Part I 'Wambaya' first).

Part I. Wambaya.

Wambaya (Barkly, Australia) is a so-called 'free word order' language. The Auxiliary (*gini-ng-a* in 1-3) must be preceded by exactly one constituent, which can be a multi-word phrase as in 1 or a single word as in 2 and 3. Otherwise word order is very free.

1. galalarrinyi-ni bugayini-ni gini-ng-a dawu.
dog-ERG big-ERG 3SG.Sb-1.Ob-NONFUT bite
'The big dog bit me.'
2. galalarrinyi-ni gini-ng-a dawu bugayini-ni.
dog-ERG 3SG.Sb-1.Ob-NONFUT bite big-ERG
'The big dog bit me.'
3. bugayini-ni gini-ng-a dawu galalarrinyi-ni.
big-ERG 3SG.Sb-1.Ob-NONFUT bite dog-ERG
'The big dog bit me.'

See Prob. 1 'Warlpiri' in the Bresnan textbook for a similar problem. Although Warlpiri is Pama-Nyungan and Wambaya is not, the two languages have some similarities.

Notice that the OBJ function is satisfied by an affix on the Auxiliary, *-ng*, glossed as 1.Ob, i.e. '1st person Object' ('me'). Alternatively the OBJ in Wambaya can be expressed as an overt NP in Accusative case, as in 4 and 5:

4. Nganki ngiy-a lurrbanyi wardangarringa-ni alaji.
this.ERG 3SG-PST grab moon-ERG boy.ACC
'This moon grabbed (her) child.'
5. Nganki wardangarringa-ni ngiy-a lurrbanyi alaji.
this.ERG moon-ERG 3SG-PST grab boy.ACC
'This moon grabbed (her) child.'

For this reason the lexical entry for the verb *dawu* 'bite' below contains an equation to assign accusative to its object, that is, (\uparrow OBJ CASE) = ACC . This is also the reason that the equation (\uparrow OBJ) = \downarrow is one option for annotating an NP node, in the c-structure rules below.

Assume these **c-structure** rules:

$S \rightarrow X \text{ Aux } X^*$ $X = \text{NP or V}$
 $\text{NP} \rightarrow \text{N}^*$

With the following functional annotations:

1. Assign $(\uparrow \text{SUBJ}) = \downarrow$ or $(\uparrow \text{OBJ}) = \downarrow$ freely to NP.
2. Assign $\uparrow = \downarrow$ to N, V, and Aux

And the following **lexicon**:

<i>bugayini-ni</i>	N	$(\uparrow \text{ADJ PRED}) = \text{'big'}$ $(\uparrow \text{CASE}) = \text{ERG}$	(ADJ abbreviates 'adjunct')
<i>gini-ng-a</i>	Aux	$(\uparrow \text{TENSE}) = \text{NONFUTURE}$ $(\uparrow \text{SUBJ NUM}) = \text{SG}$ $(\uparrow \text{SUBJ PERS}) = \text{3rd}$ $(\uparrow \text{OBJ PERS}) = \text{1st}$ $(\uparrow \text{OBJ PRED}) = \text{'pro'}$	
<i>dawu</i>	V	$(\uparrow \text{PRED}) = \text{'bite} < (\uparrow \text{SUBJ})(\uparrow \text{OBJ}) >'$ $(\uparrow \text{SUBJ CASE}) = \text{ERG}$ $(\uparrow \text{OBJ CASE}) = \text{ACC}$	
<i>galalarrinyi-ni</i>	N	$(\uparrow \text{PRED}) = \text{'dog'}$ $(\uparrow \text{NUM}) = \text{SG}$ $(\uparrow \text{PERS}) = \text{3rd}$ $(\uparrow \text{CASE}) = \text{ERG}$	

Your task: Give c- and f-structures for Wambaya sentences 1, 2 and 3, assuming this grammar. Are the three f-structures identical?

(Note: Technically the **c-structure** includes all the *schemata*, i.e. the equations containing up and down arrows, such as $(\uparrow \text{SUBJ}) = \downarrow$. The **f-description** is derived from the **c-structure** by substituting function names such f1, f2, etc. for the arrows, as in $(f1 \text{ SUBJ}) = f2$. So when I ask for a c-structure it should have equations containing arrows, not equations containing f1, f2 etc. It is also much easier to read with the arrows.)

This problem set is based on the work of Rachel Nordlinger.

Now do Part II 'Monsters'.