UNIVERSITY OF ANBAR

كلية : كلية الاداب

القسم او الفرع : قسم اللغة الانجليزية

المرحلة: الرابعة

أستاذ المادة : م.م نبراس خليل ابراهيم

اسم المادة باللغة العربية : نحو

اسم المادة باللغة الإنكليزية : Transformational Grammar

اسم المحاضرة التاسعة باللغة العربية: تركيب او هيكلة الجملة

اسم المحاضرة التاسعة باللغة الإنكليزية : The Structure of the Sentence

1

The Structure of the Sentence

- Yes, my neighbor has seen the dog.

- In generative-transformational grammar, the words in a sentence are arranged in a definite word order.

- Words cluster together in groups within the sentence.

- My neighbor forms a group; The dog forms a group.

- Breaking the sentence: Two breaks:

- 1. Between Yes and my neighbor has seen the dog.

- 2. Between My neighbor and has seen the dog.

- Again, My neighbor can be divided into My and neighbor.

- My neighbor and the dog have the same structure: both are noun phrases.

Abbreviations

- Sentence = S; Sentence modifier = SM; noun phrase = NP; verb phrase = VP.

- Generative Rules in this specific grammar are expressed in the following way:

- S (SM) Nuc

- Nuc NP + VP

- The arrow means "consists of" or "is to be rewritten as"

- ( ) (SM) parenthesis means that this element is optional.

Definitions of the elements of the sentence

- SM = is a word or group of words like yes, no, certainly, naturally, maybe, perhaps, possibly, in fact, etc.

- NP = is the name of the structure that functions as the complete subject of a sentence

- VP = is the structure that functions as the complete predicate.

- NP may be a single word (John ran) or a group of words (the little boy ran).

A rule for a transformational is not an explanation of how • to punctuate a sentence or how to avoid errors. Rather, it is a direction for forming a sentence or part of a sentence.

The rules in a transformational grammar will specify which combinations of words are grammatical sentences. This is known as a tree.

• The sentence <u>Yes, that man drinks milk</u> is represented in a tree as follows:

S

SM   Nuc

NP   VP

Yes   that man   drinks milk
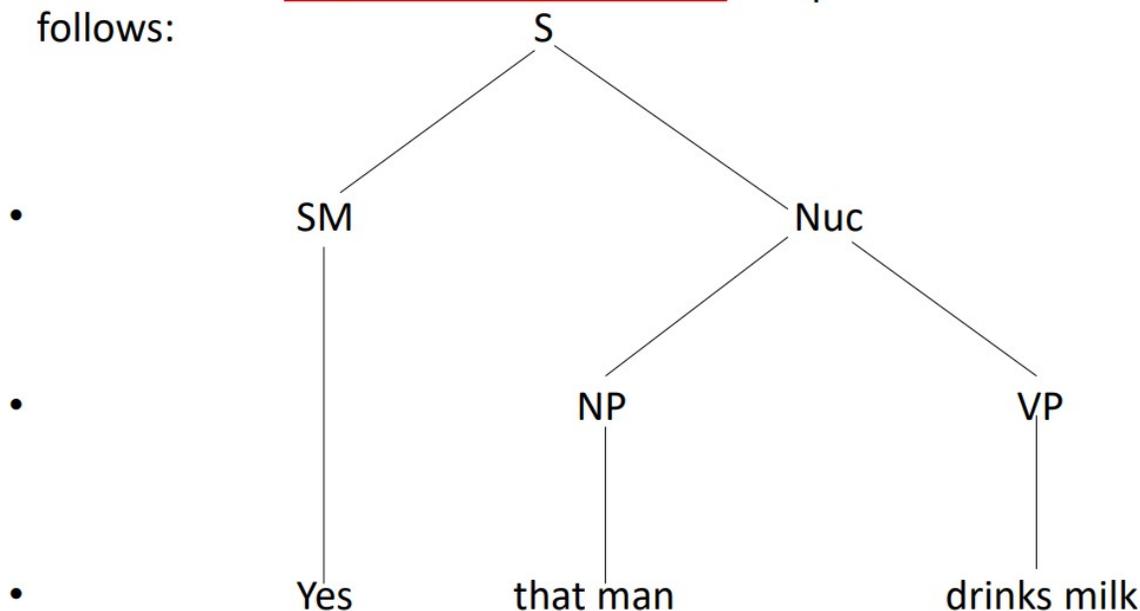
Sentences in English are not composed of mere sequences of • words; rather they are composed of words that cluster .together

Yes, that man drinks milk • In the above sentence, that man • drinks milk is one cluster, which in turn is composed of two .subordinate clusters: that man and drinks milk

Generative Rules

All rules in a generative-transformational grammar are • .numbered: P1, P2, P3, etc

.P stands for phrase structure •

P1: S (SM) Nuc •

P2: Nuc NP + VP •

A noun phrase NP always contains a nominal (N) which • may be a pronoun, a name, or a common noun. Some nominals are preceded by determiners (Det), such as the, a, that, this, these, those, etc. ; some nominals may be in the .plural (Pl)

P7: NP (Det) N (Pl) •

.Book + pl is read as books; egg + pl is read eggs •

- Those apples look green


```
                        S
                        |
                       Nuc
                      /      \
                  NP           VP
                 /  |  \        ▲
              Det   N   Pl
               |    |    |
             Those apple Pl      look green
```

- The triangle under VP tells us that (look green) is to be further analyzed.

To the traditionalist, the verb phrase in the sentence (The man must have found the note) is must have found; to the transformationalist, it is must have found the note. There is disagreement between those two schools of grammar. Let us now examine the components of the verb phrase in transformational grammar:

- P3: VP Aux + MV (manner) (place) (time) (reason)

- This means that a verb phrase consists of (or "is rewritten as") an auxiliary, a main verb (MV), and optional adverbials of manner (rapidly, with ease), place (there, at home), time (then, at noon), or reason (because of the noise).

- The man will drive carefully in town today because of the ice: Analyze.

P4: Aux tense •

• P5: tense $\longrightarrow \left[\begin{array}{l}\text{present}\\\text{past}\end{array}\right]$

• Every auxiliary contains a tense, and that tense is either present or past.

•

• P6: MV $\longrightarrow \left\{\begin{array}{l}\text{be}\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text{NP}\\\text{place}\\\text{AP}\end{array}\right\}\\\text{V \ (NP)}\end{array}\right\}$

This rule says that an MV is to be rewritten as any one of the :following structures

.Be + NP This is a text .1

Be + Place Betty was in the car .2

Be + AP She was very rude .3

V John ran .4

V + NP Bill sold the tickets .5

AP = Adjective phrase, which consists of an optional intensifier (intens) such as very, extremely, rather, etc. and an adjective (Adj) such as old, happy, green, etc. Here is the rule: P8: AP (Intens) Adj

We can incorporate all of the information contained in our rewrite rules in trees:

```
                      S
                      |
                     Nuc
          _____/  _____
         NP                          VP
         |              _____/ | _____
         N             Aux           MV              manner
         |              |            |                 |
         |            tense          V                 |
        she            past         run             rapidly
```

```
                      S
                      |
                     Nuc
          _____/  _____
         NP                          VP
         |              _____/ | _____
         N             Aux           be              MV
         |              |            |         _____/ _____
         |            tense          |        NP
         |              |            |      __/  \__
        John         present        be    Det       N
                                          |          |
                                          an       artist
```
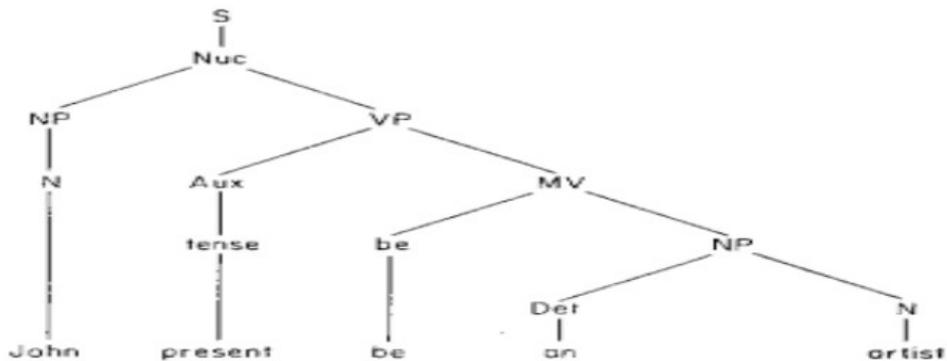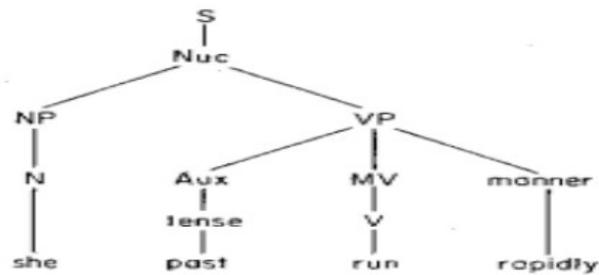
Notice that the tree shows the structure of the sentence. We call each of the places at which a symbol is written a *node* and say that a node *dominates* anything connected by lines below it. From the tree we can see that John is an N, since the N node dominates it. Similarly, an is a Dct, be an artist is an MV, present be an artist is a VP, etc. On the other hand, John