

# Introduction to English Linguistics

## 5: Grammar and Syntax II



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# Syntactic Schools

## Generative (or Transformational) Grammar

A linguistic model postulating an innate set of syntactic rules from which all linguistic utterances are generated, involving a **transformation** from an underlying **deep structure** to the apparent **surface structure**.

[Deep Structure]  $\rightarrow$  [Subsystem]  $\rightarrow$  [Surface Structure]

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[Deep Structure] → [Subsystem] → [Surface Structure]

## Cognitive Grammar

Understands language as an abstract symbolic system directly rooted in the same cognitive processes used for other thought processes and thus not routed through a syntactic subsystem.

# Universal Grammar

In the generative tradition, any linguistic structures believed to underly all languages.

Universal grammar is understood to involve **parameters** with different settings for different languages (e.g. whether the head precedes or follows its complement).

# Generative Grammar

## Phrase Structure Rules

Rules for parsing syntactic structures, defining the constitution of phrases with a view to finding structural correspondences across languages.

$S \rightarrow NP VP$ : *A sentence consists of a noun phrase followed by a verb phrase.*

$NP \rightarrow (Det) (A) N (PP)$ : *A noun phrase consists of a noun preceded by the optional elements determiner and adjective and followed by the optional element prepositional phrase.*

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NP	Noun phrase	AP	Adjective phrase
VP	Verb phrase	PP	Preposition phrase
AdvP	Adverbial phrase	Det	Determiner
Deg	Degree word	Aux	Auxiliary verb
Con	Conjunction	S	Sentence

---

# (Generative) Syntactic Constituents

(Cf. parts of speech.)

Label	Description
N	Noun
V	Verb
A	Adjective
P	Preposition
Adv	Adverb
T	Tense
C	Complementizer
Det	Determiner
Deg	Degree word
Aux	Auxiliary verb
Con	Conjunction

► (Lexical)

► Can head a phrase

► Nonlexical

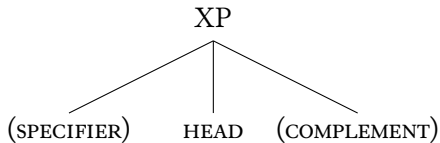
► Cannot head a phrase

► Pronoun  $\equiv$  N without specifier or complement

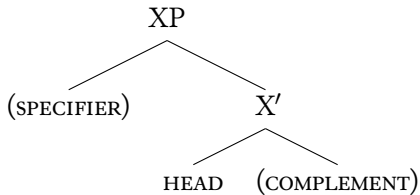
# X-Bar Theory

Models all phrases as specifier-head structures by positing a projected head, raising specifiers above the level of complements.

## Multiple Branching Schema



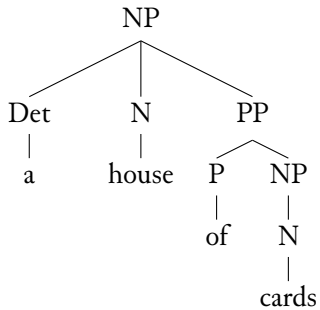
## X-Bar Schema



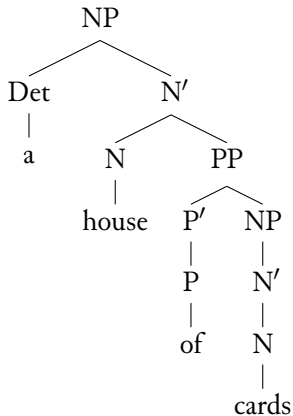
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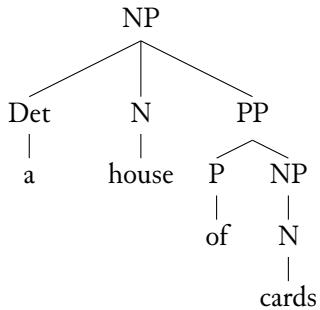




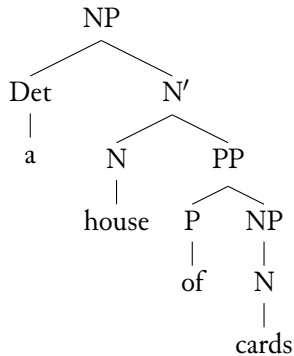
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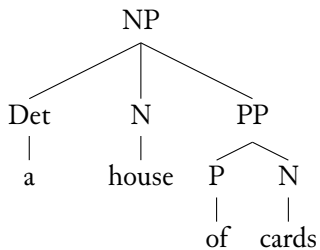


X' level only required in phrases with both specifier and complement.

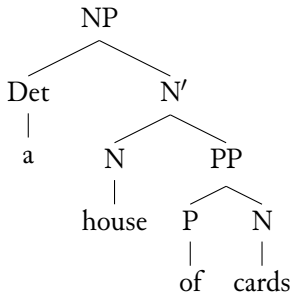
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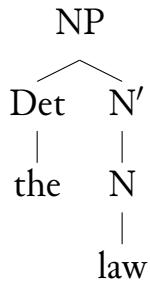
### X-Bar Schema



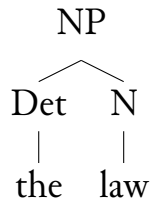
(You may also omit XP where it's just a head, but I won't here.)

# X-Bar Phrase Structure

## Full Schema

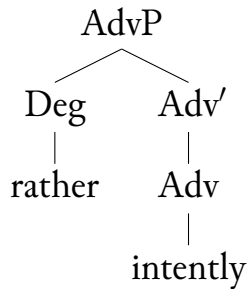


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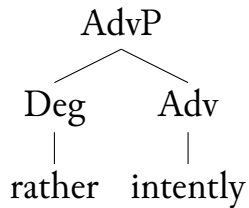


# X-Bar Phrase Structure

Full Schema

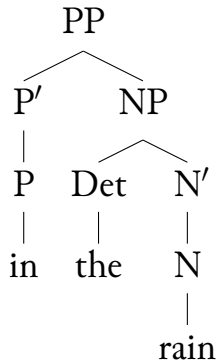


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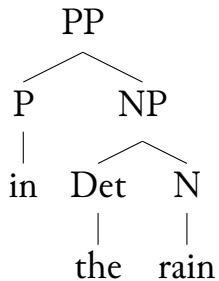


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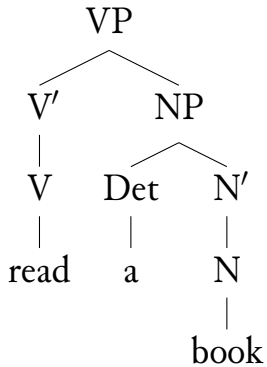


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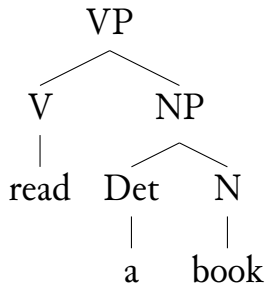


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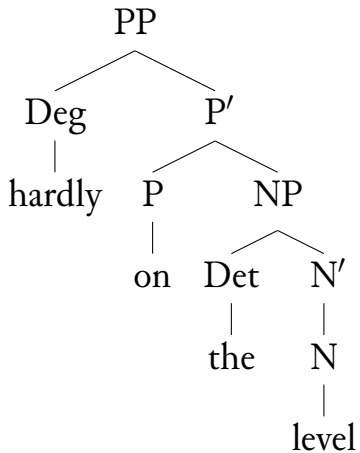


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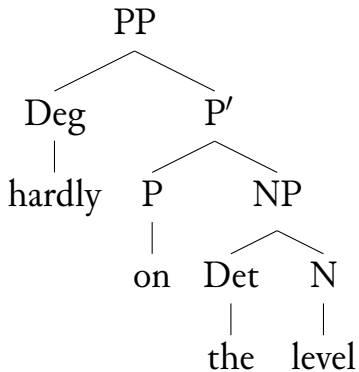


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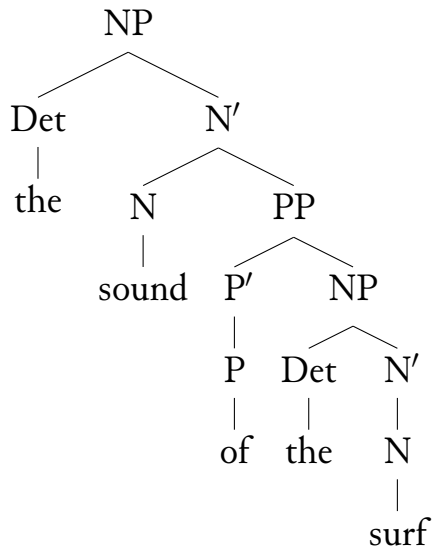
Full Schema



Compact Schema

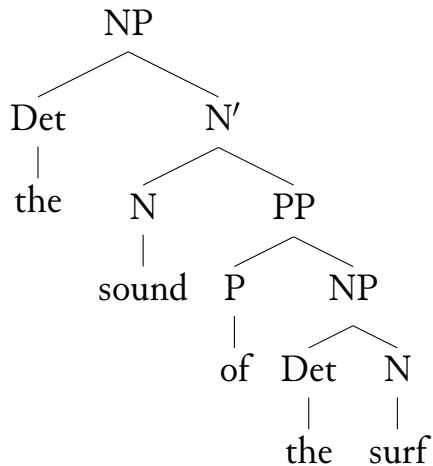


## X-Bar Phrase Structure (Full Schema)

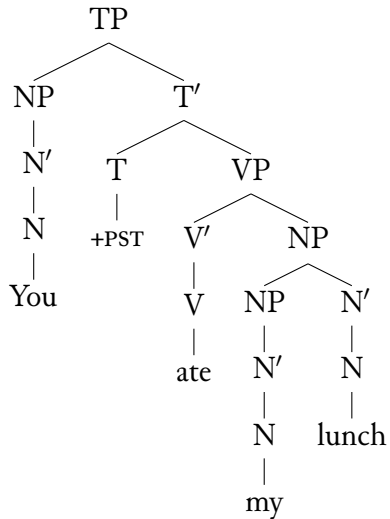




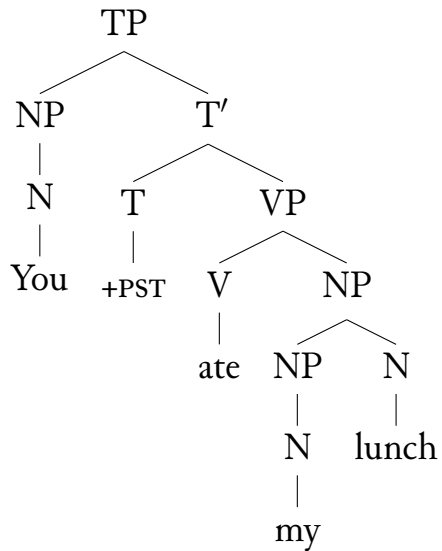
## X-Bar Phrase Structure (Compact Schema)



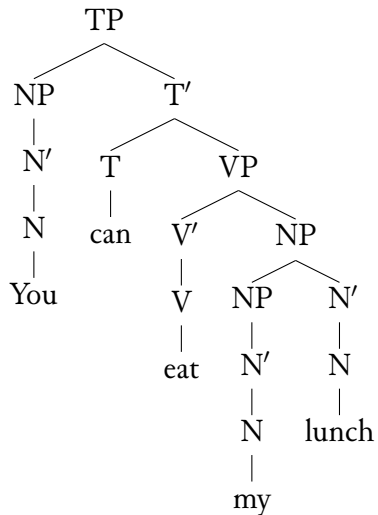
## X-Bar Sentence Structure (Full Schema)



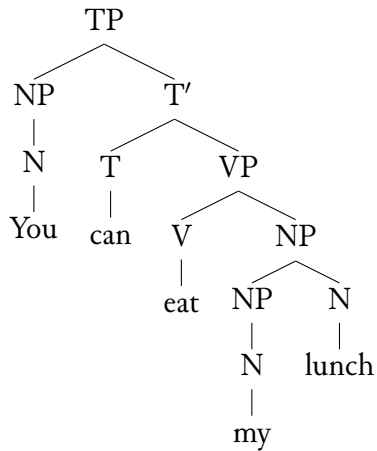
## X-Bar Sentence Structure (Compact Schema)



## X-Bar Modal Structure (Full Schema)



## X-Bar Modal Structure (Compact Schema)



## Auxiliaries versus Modals

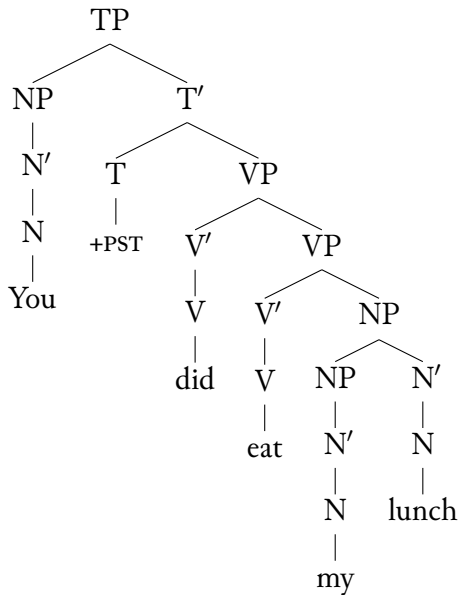
“

Because of their inherent tense, only modals are treated as instances of the T category.  
(O'Grady 178)

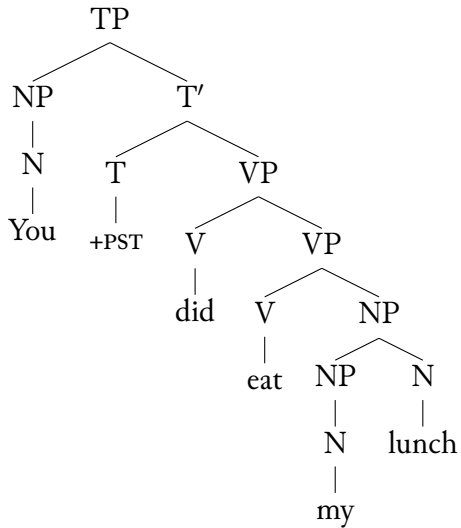
“

[N]onmodal auxiliaries [...] are considered to be a special type of V that takes a VP complement.  
(O'Grady 195)

## X-Bar Auxiliary Structure (Full Schema)

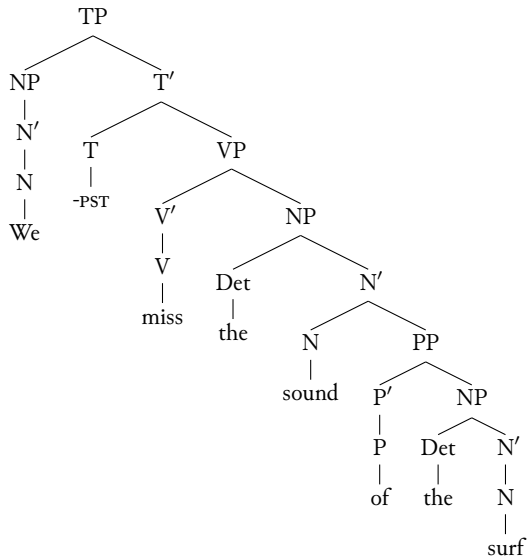


## X-Bar Auxiliary Structure (Compact Schema)

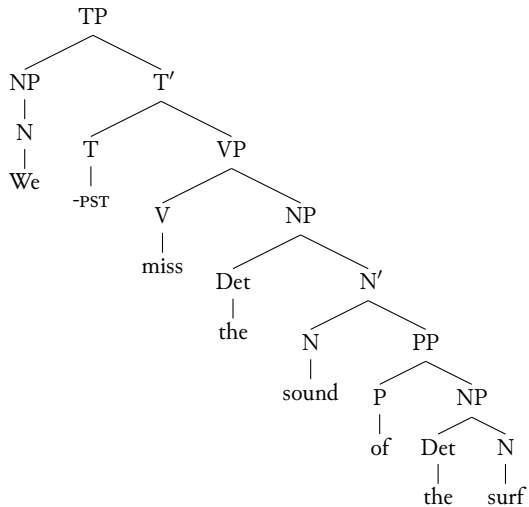




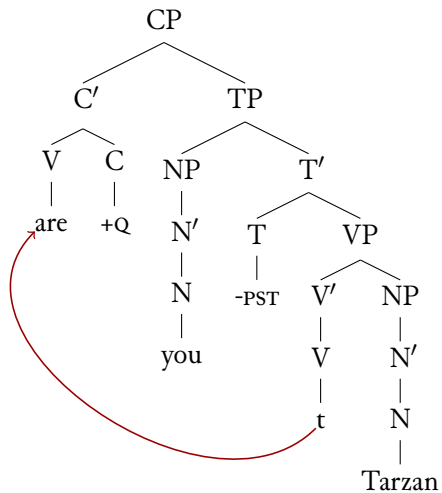
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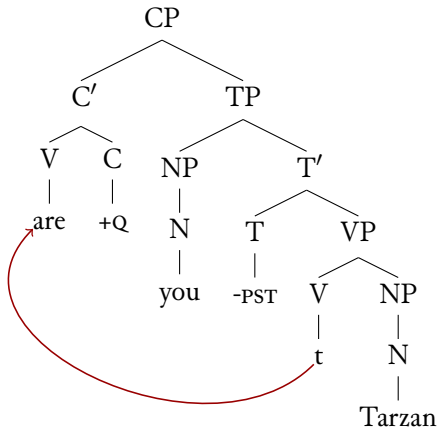
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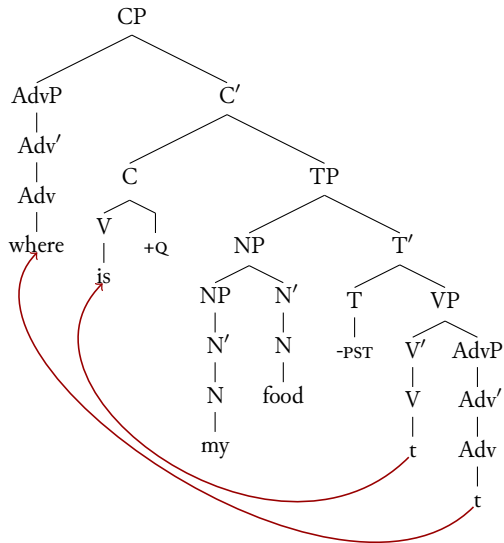
## X-Bar Yes/No-Movement (Full Schema)



## X-Bar Yes/No-Movement (Compact Schema)



## X-Bar *Wh*-Movement (Full Schema)



## X-Bar *Wh*-Movement (Compact Schema)

