

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] → [Subsystem] → [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.*

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.)

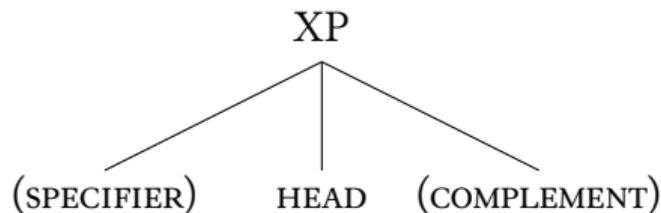
Label	Description	
N	Noun	
V	Verb	
A	Adjective	▶ (Lexical)
P	Preposition	▶ Can head a phrase
Adv	Adverb	
T	Tense	
C	Complementizer	
Det	Determiner	▶ Nonlexical
Deg	Degree word	▶ Cannot head a phrase
Aux	Auxiliary verb	
Con	Conjunction	

- ▶ Pronoun \equiv N without specifier or complement

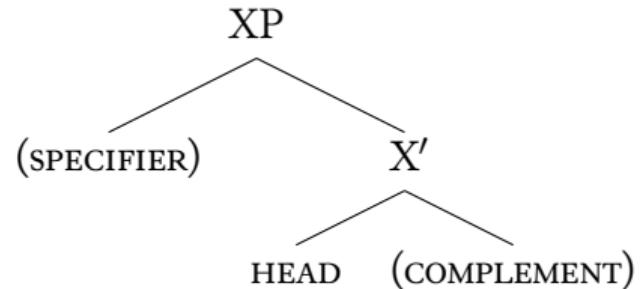
X-Bar Theory

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

Multiple Branching Schema



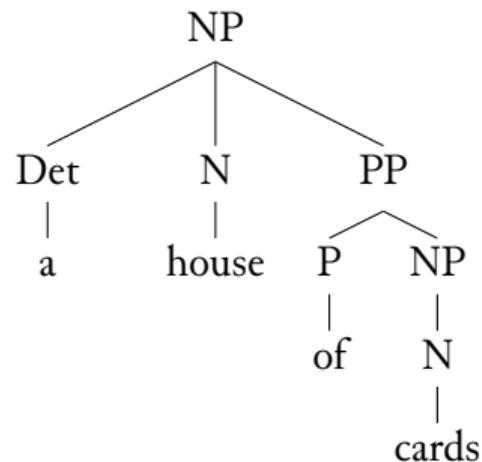
X-Bar Schema



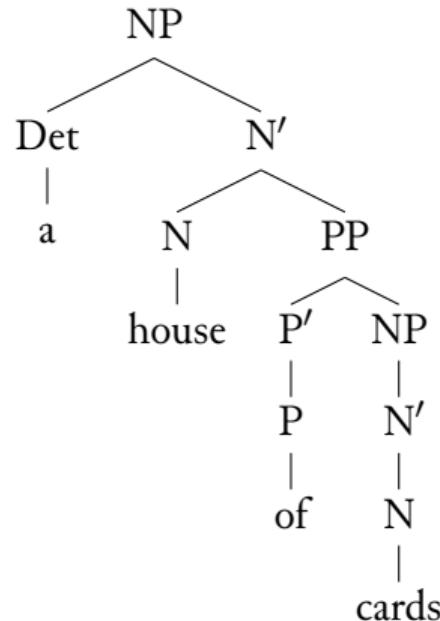
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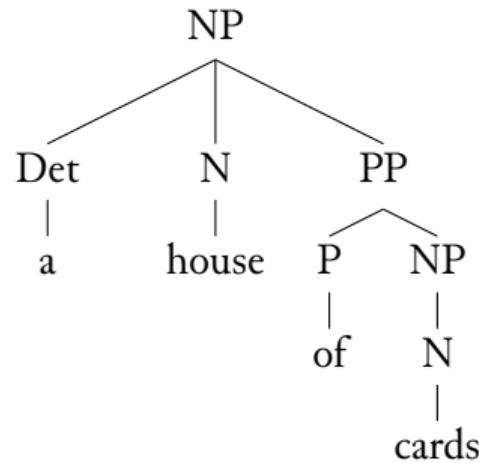
X-Bar Schema



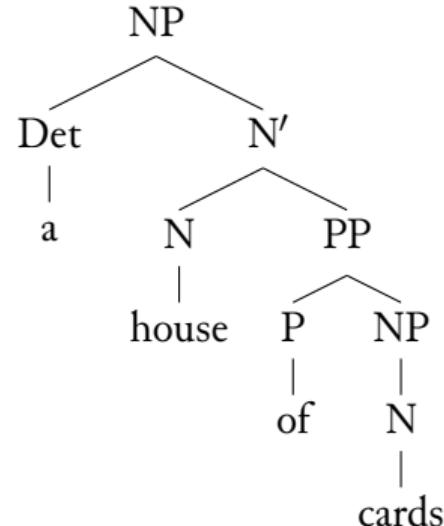
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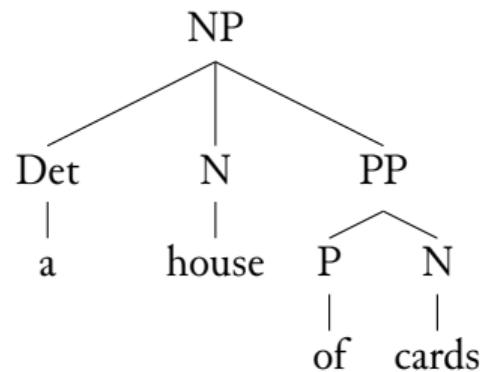


X' level only required in phrases with both specifier and complement.

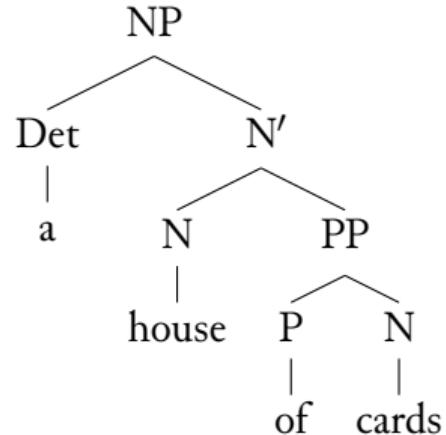
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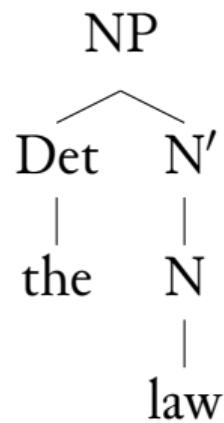
X-Bar Schema



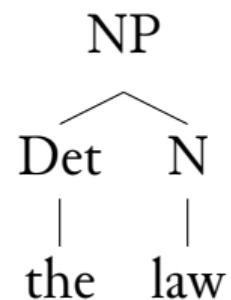
(You may also omit XP where it's just a head, but I won't here.)

X-Bar Phrase Structure

Full Schema

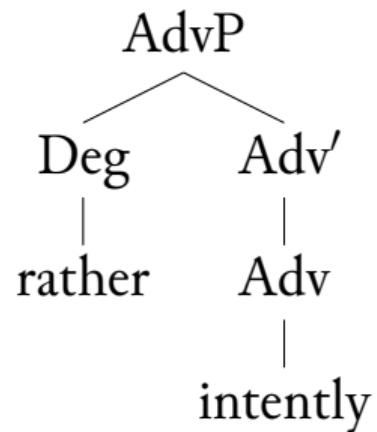


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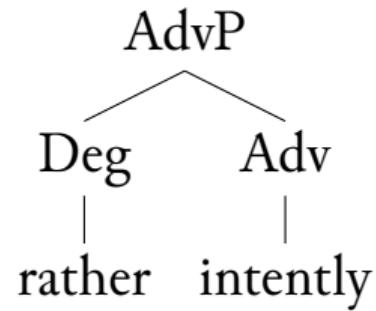


X-Bar Phrase Structure

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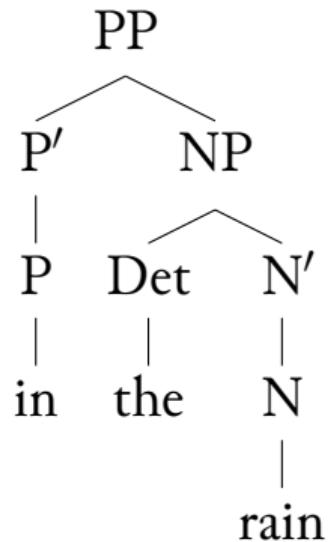


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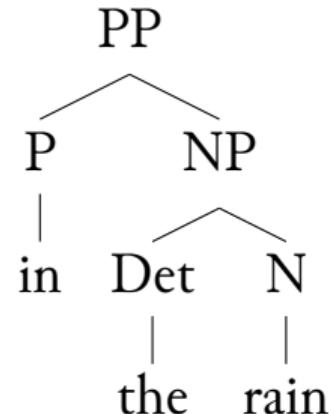


X-Bar Phrase Structure

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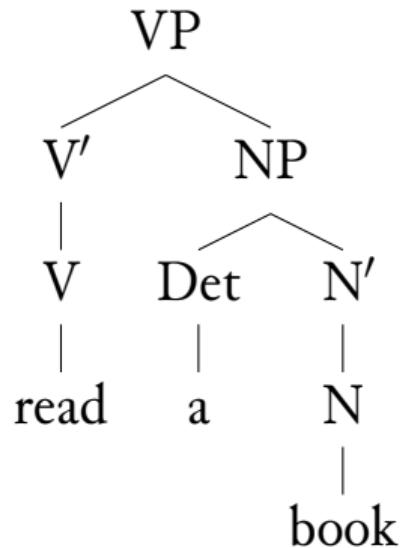


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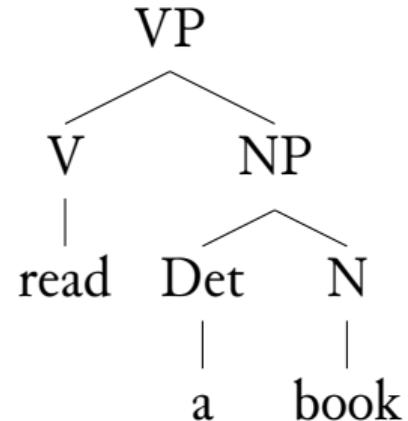


X-Bar Phrase Structure

Full Schema

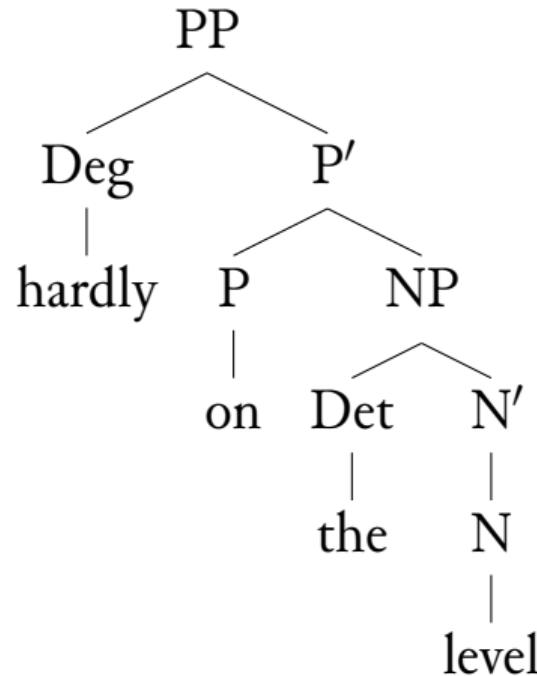


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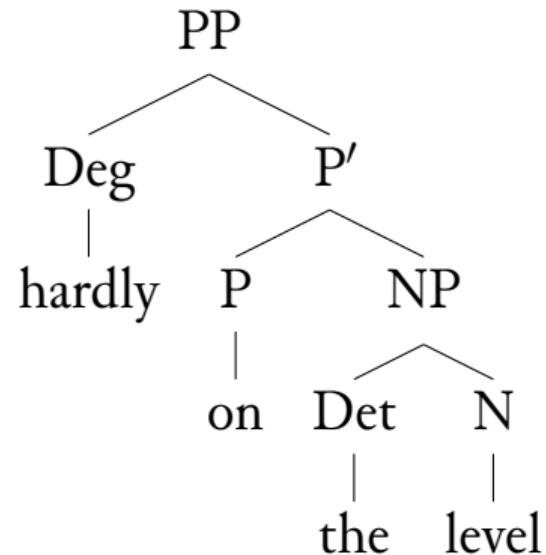


X-Bar Phrase Structure

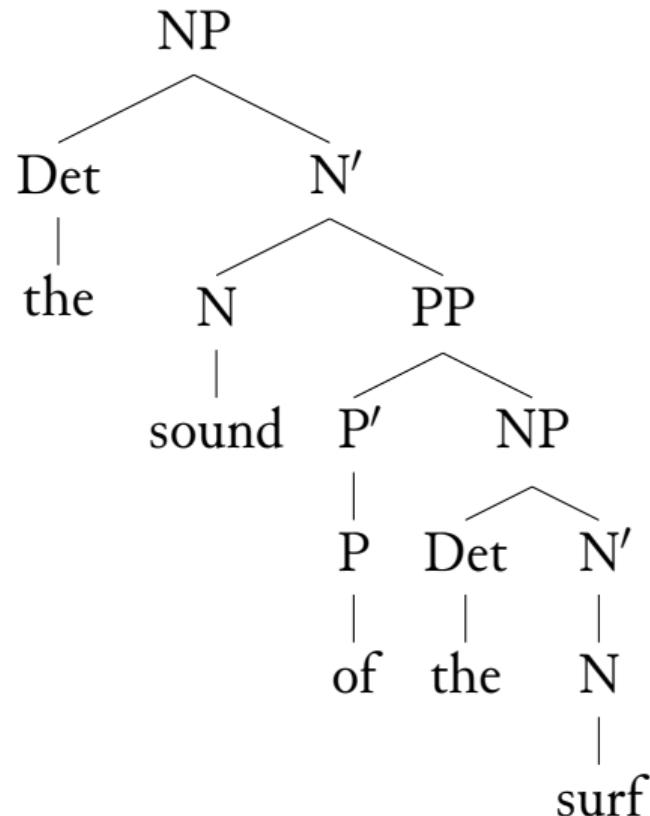
Full Schema



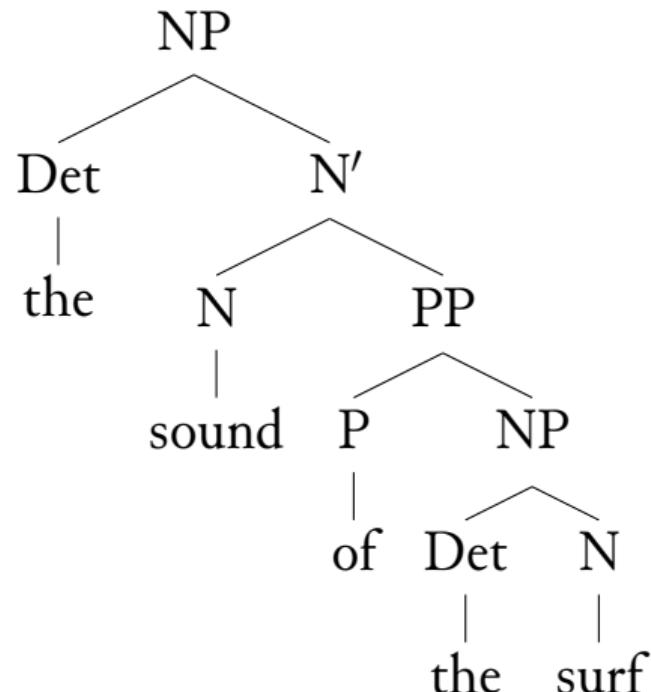
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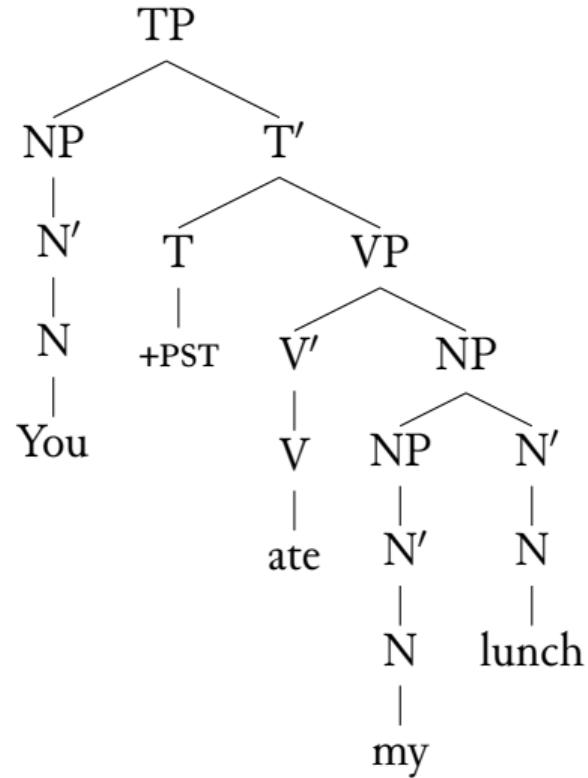
X-Bar Phrase Structure (Full Schema)



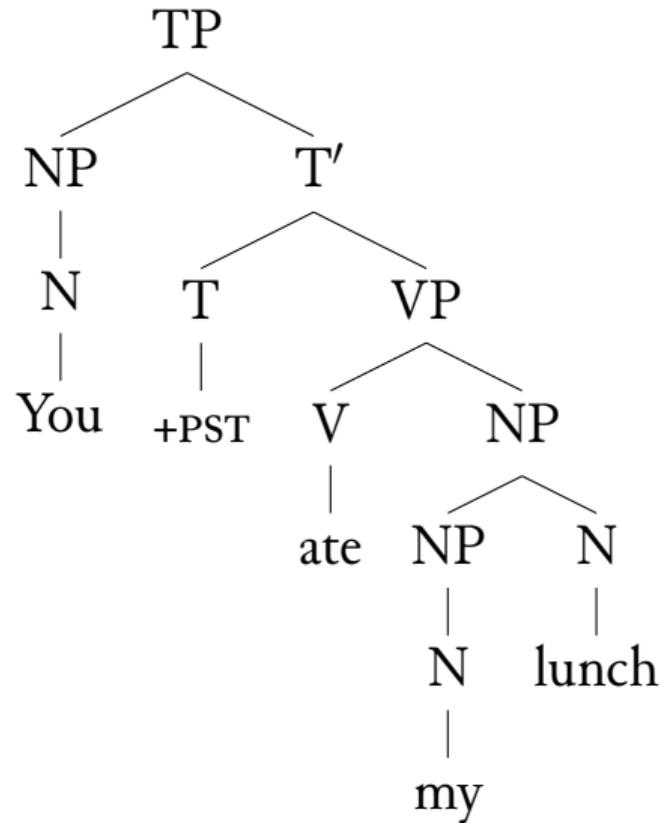
X-Bar Phrase Structure (Compact Schema)



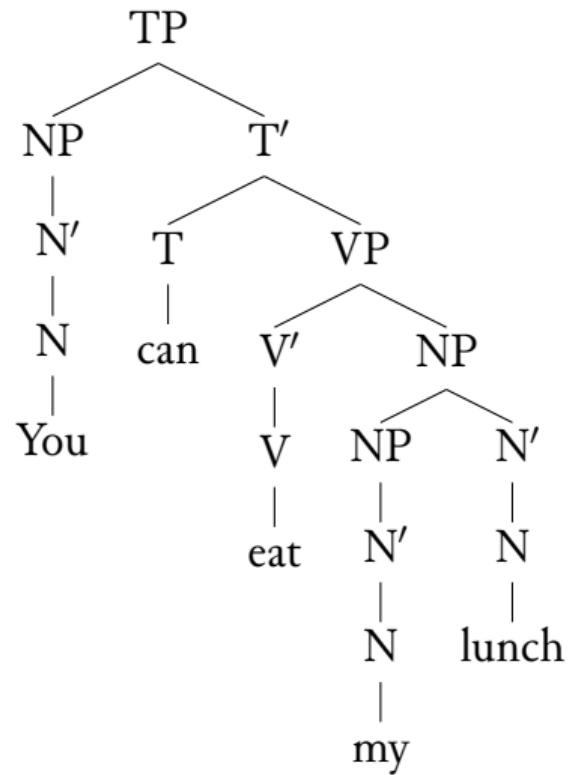
X-Bar Sentence Structure (Full Schema)



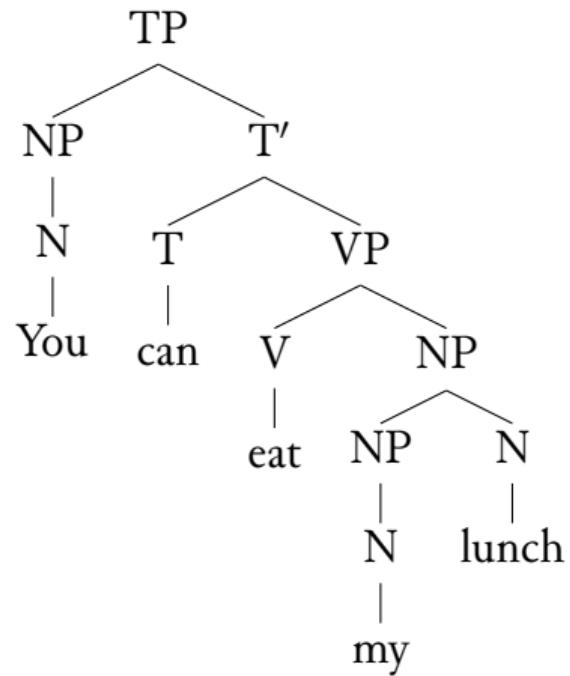
X-Bar Sentence Structure (Compact Schema)



X-Bar Modal Structure (Full Schema)



X-Bar Modal Structure (Compact Schema)



Auxiliaries versus Modals

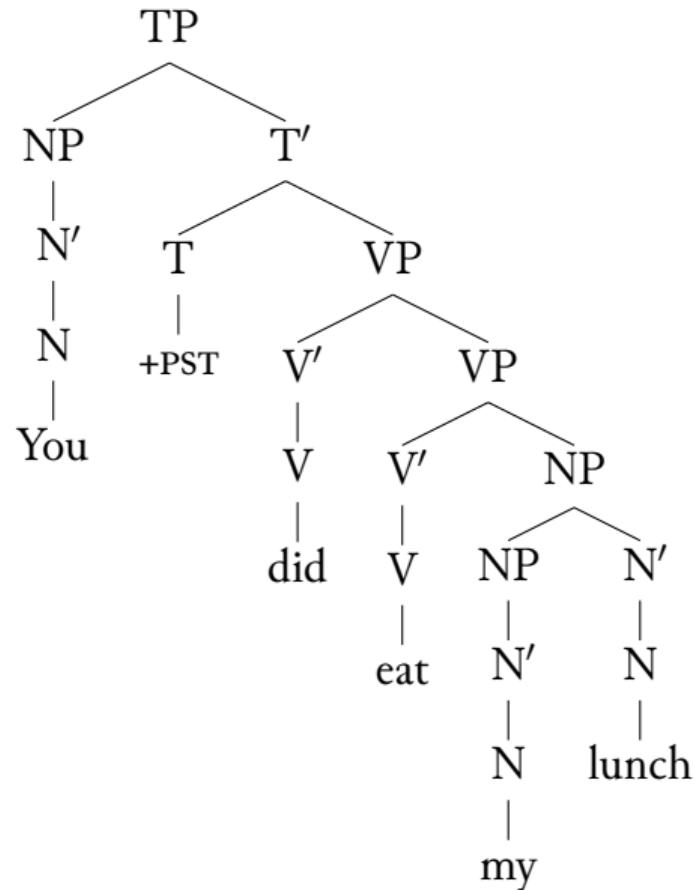
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Because of their inherent tense, only modals are treated as instances of the T category.
(O'Grady 178)

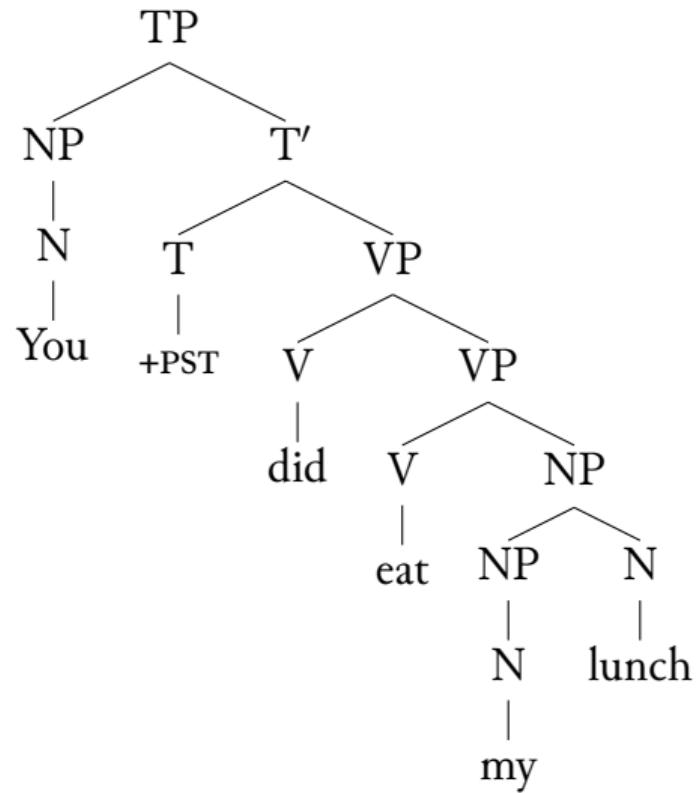
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[N]onmodal auxiliaries [...] are considered to be a special type of V that takes a VP complement.
(O'Grady 195)

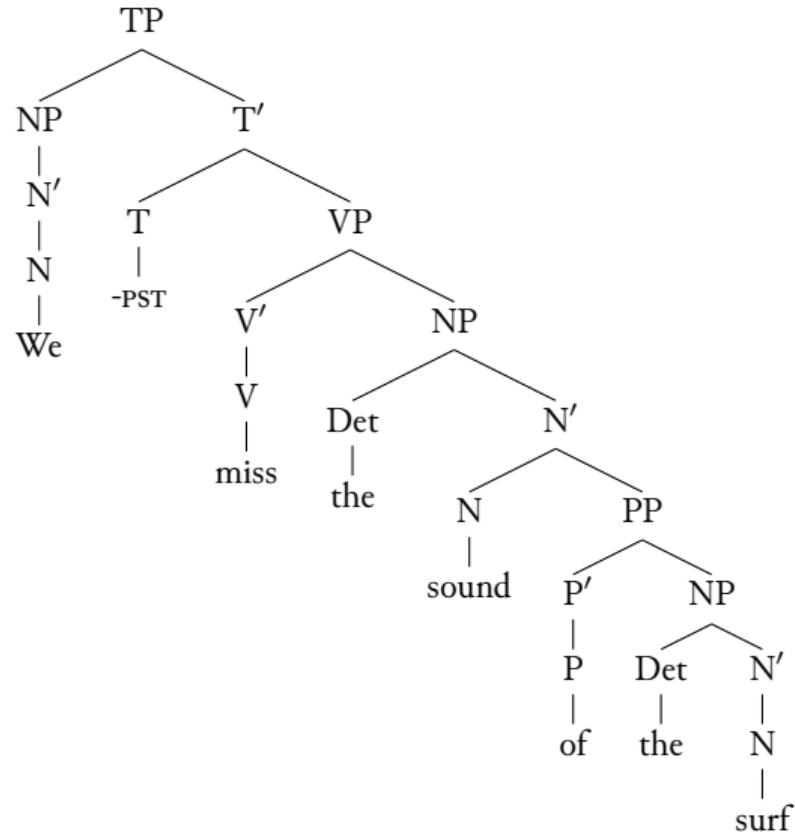
X-Bar Auxiliary Structure (Full Schema)



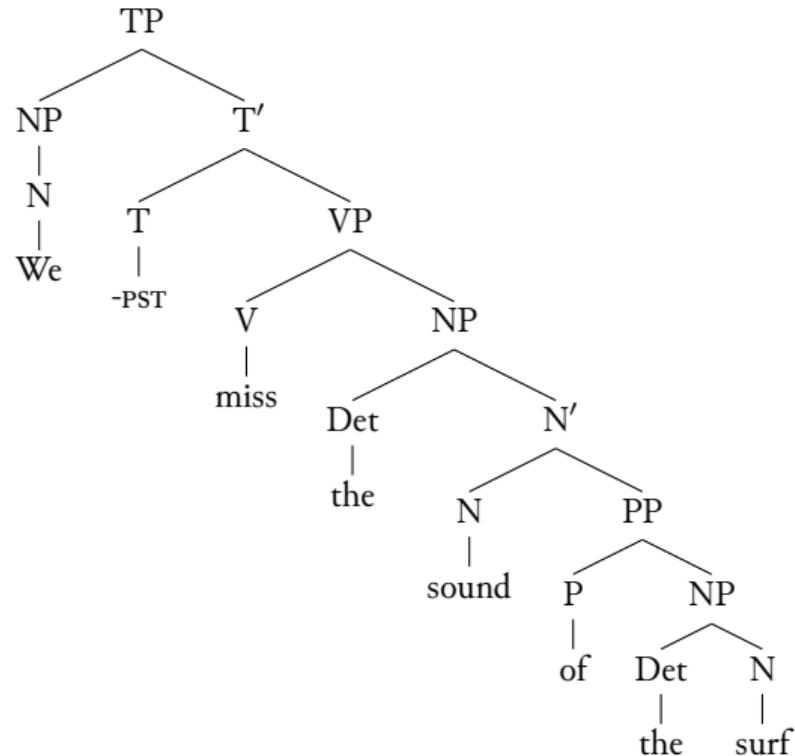
X-Bar Auxiliary Structure (Compact Schema)



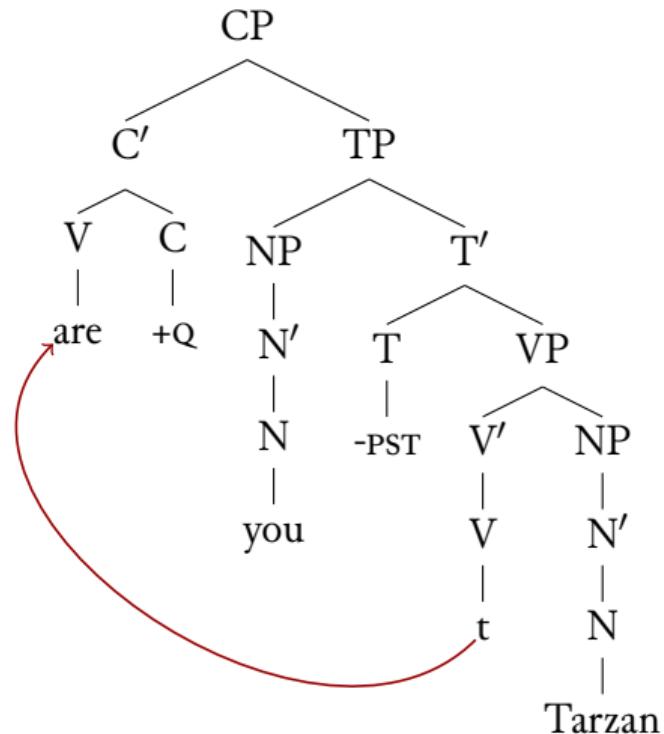
X-Bar Sentence Structure (Full Schema)



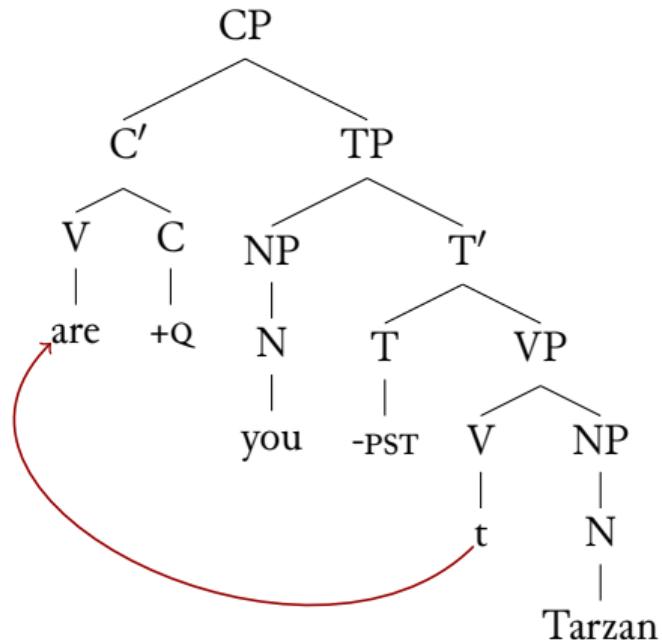
X-Bar Sentence Structure (Compact Schema)



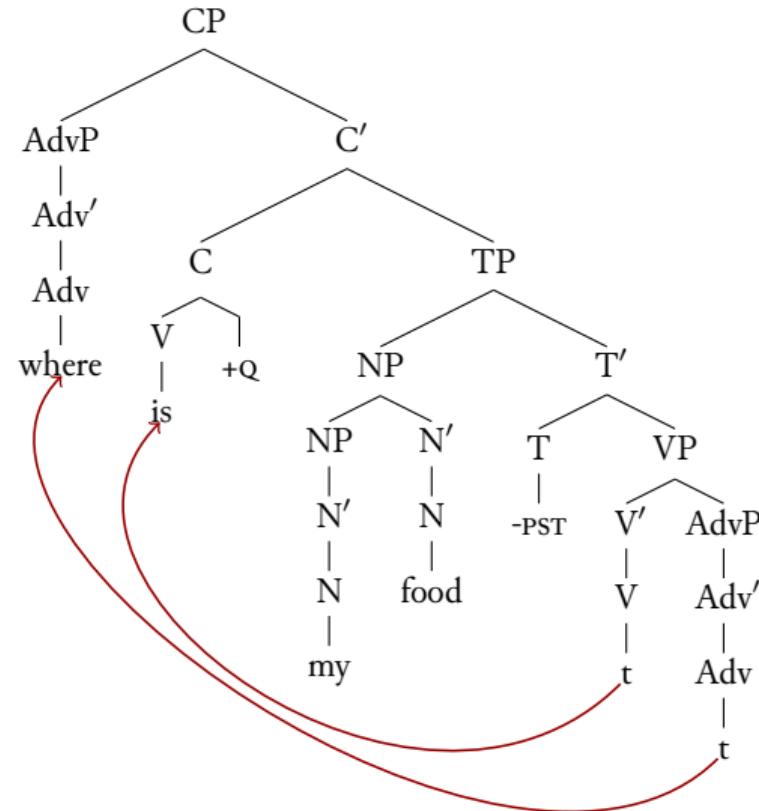
X-Bar Yes/No-Movement (Full Schema)



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



X-Bar Wh-Movement (Full Schema)



X-Bar Wh-Movement (Compact Schema)

