

Grammaticality and Features

1 Grammaticality

- (1) a. I am SO next!
ok: 86%, *: 14%
- b. The puppy seems sleeping.
ok: 0%, *: 100%
- c. Tami has more bikes than what Brian does.
ok: 7%, *: 93%
- d. The A train had an existential crisis.
ok: 100%, *: 0%
- e. The actor that the director favored is a friend of mine.
ok: 100%, *: 0%
- f. The actor that the director that the students admired favored is a friend of mine.
ok: 24%, *: 76%
- g. I heard that Sue the movie disliked.
ok: 3%, *: 97%
- h. The butter was passed to Marsha.
ok: 100%, *: 0%
- i. The actor was resembled by Phil.
ok: 28%, *: 72%

- Processing Complexity
- Dialectal Variation
- Prescriptive Grammar

2 Prescriptive Grammar

(2) In Progress:

- a. Split Infinitives:
to **boldly** go where no man has gone before!
- b. Preposition Stranding:
Who are you referring to?
To whom are you referring?
To whom are you referring to?
- c. *who* vs. *whom*

(3) They Won (Sort Of)

- a. *ain't*:
Ain't ain't a word.
- b. Double Negatives (Negative Concord):
I can't get no satisfaction.
Don't look at me. I didn't do nothing.

3 Constraining Phrase Structure Rules

(4) Some Rules

- a. $NP \rightarrow (D) N$
- b. $VP \rightarrow V (NP)$
- c. $N \rightarrow \text{students} \mid \text{student} \mid \text{actor} \mid \text{John}$
- d. $V \rightarrow \text{yawned} \mid \text{like}$

Using features to block overgeneration:

(5) Subcategorization:

- a. $VP \rightarrow V[\text{tr}] NP$
- b. $VP \rightarrow V[\text{intr}]$
- c. $V[\text{tr}] \rightarrow \text{like}$
- d. $V [\text{intr}] \rightarrow \text{yawned}$

(6) Other cases to handle:

- a. Determiner-Noun Restrictions
- b. Agreement
- c. Case

(7) Two Important Notions:

- a. Underspecification
- b. Feature Percolation