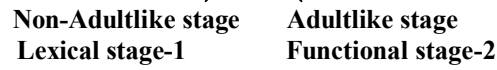
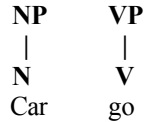


Ling 417—Lecture II (Chapter 6) Overview of Early Syntax
Stages of INFlection

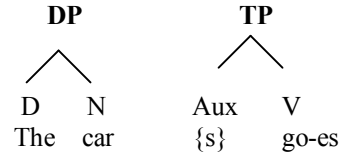


0. Syntax/INFL

0.1 Lexical 'Noun/Verb'



**0.2 Functional Determiner [D=>N]
 Auxiliary [Aux=>V]**



DP Features: [+/-Def]
 [+/-Nom]
 [Person]
 [+/-Number]

TP Features: [Agr]
 (subject-verb)
 [Tense]
 [+/-Past]

Lexical words provide substantive material/meaning.

Functional words provide abstract grammar:
 DP: Definiteness, Case, Person, Number
 TP: Agreement, Tense

Summary of stage: Non-INFL stage:
 No Tense/Number/Agreement/Case

Summary of stage: onset of INFL,
 Tense/number/Agreement/Case

1. Lexical vs. Functional Categories

1.1 Non-adultlike INFL : Lexical stage-1

Children (18-30m) at the Lexical stage-1 employ
 Nouns (Adjectives) and Verbs (Adverbs).

1.2 Adultlike INFL: Functional stage-2

Children (36m+) at the Functional stage-2
 employ Determiners and Auxiliaries.

Stage-1

intermediate stage

Stage-2

[-Inflection] Verb Phrase (VP)

[+Inflection] Tense Phrase (TP)

Examples: *Baby have bottle.*
Car go. Him play.

Optional INFL

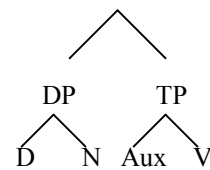
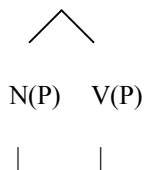
Examples: *The baby has a bottle.*
The car goes. He plays.

Structure: [S [NP Car] [VP go]]

[S [DP The car] [TP goes]]

[-AGR] S [-INFL]

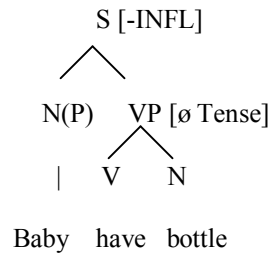
S [+INFL] [+AGR]



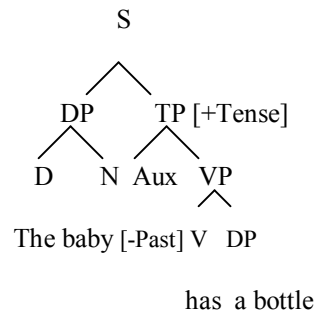
- a. Car go
- b. Him play

- The car {s} go-es
- ø He play-s

Structure: [S [NP Baby] [VP have bottle]]

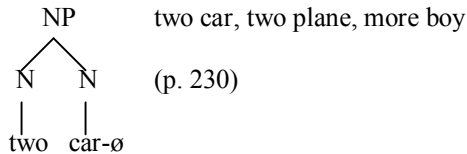


[S [DP The baby] [TP has a bottle]]



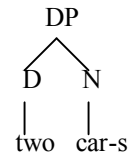
2.1 Number

Stage-1/ No Number



2.2 Number [+plural]

Stage-2: Inflection of plural



3.1 Wh-Question/No Aux

No Aux Invert

3.2 Wh-Question/Aux invert

Stage-1

What daddy doing?

Intermediate stage

What daddy is doing?

Stage-2

What is daddy doing?

4.1 Negation/Neg initial

Internal Neg/No Aux

4.2 Negation/[Aux+not]

Stage-1

No me like bottle.

No daddy have Barbar.

Intermediate Stage

Me/I no like bottle.

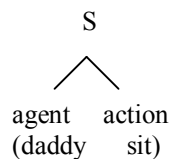
Stage-2

Daddy doesn't have Barbar

5. The nature of stage-1: Accounts

5.1 Thematic Stage-1 (p. 229) Grammar is based on semantics: Derivational morphology may be used as it is processed as a word chunk (e.g., *teacher*). Inflectional morphology on the other hand may not project at stage-1.

agent+action (*Daddy sit*)
action+object (*drive car*)



5.2 Lexical stage-1 (pp. 228ff)

Grammar is based on lexical categories: N(Adj), V(Adv), Prep.

5.3 Brain Maturation: (p. 56) Stage-1 grammar may be without full operation of Broca's area which is said to be responsible for syntax.

