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

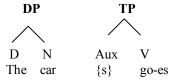
Non-Adultlike stage
Lexical stage-1

Adultlike stage
Functional stage-2

0. Syntax/INFL

0.1 Lexical 'Noun/Verb'

0. 2 Functional Determiner [D=>N] Auxiliary [Aux=>V]



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

[+/-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

1.2 Adultlike INFL: Functional stage-2

Children (36m+) at the Functional stage-2

employ Determiners and Auxiliaries.

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).

Stage-2

[-Inflection] Verb Phrase (VP)

Examples: Baby have bottle.

Car go. Him play.

Stage-1

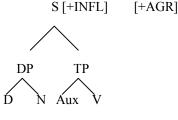
Optional INFL

intermediate stage

[+Inflection] Tense Phrase (TP)

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

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



he car {s} go-es

ø He

play-s

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

[-AGR] S [-INFL]

N(P) V(P)

| |
a. Car go

b. Him play

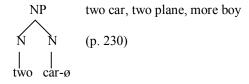


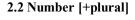


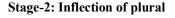
has a bottle

2.1 Number

Stage-1/ No Number









3.1 Wh-Question/No Aux No Aux Invert 3.2 Wh-Question/Aux invert

Stage-1 Intermediate stage Stage-2

What daddy doing? What is daddy doing? What is daddy doing?

4.1 Negation/Neg initial Internal Neg/No Aux 4.2 Negation/[Aux+not]

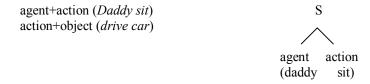
Stage-1 Intermediate Stage Stage-2

No me like bottle.

No daddy have Barbar. Me/I no like bottle. 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.



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.

Notes: Lecture II: Syntax

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1	Nature	ot	Err	ors:

a) Lexical mix-ups: The car is driving

The drive is caring

@ The driving is car.

Rat-eater-s (Stem+Der-INFL/Gordon)

@Rat-s-eater

b) Case Pronouns: Me do it. (Acc Default)

@Mommy kiss I.

Me playing car. (Acc Default/-Finite)

@Me am playing car.

c) Deletion: /s/ Sally wear-<u>s</u> strange sock-<u>s</u> (Sally Exp).

Sally, Dance (/s/ doesn't delete)

2. Nature of complexity: The/A number of students is/are dropping [Def => number]

S V x

John knows [me to tell the truth] (Acc/-Fin]

John knows [I tell the truth]

She talks to the director (Tense/AGR)

I suggest [she talk to the director]

DP: Def, Case, Person, Number DP

/ \

D N

AUX: Tense/AGR TP

/ \

Aux V

3. Sentence Structure Show INFL