

How To Make a Dictionary:

Types of lexical information: grammar
(parts of speech categories & subcategories)

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B.A. British And American Studies
Basic Module 2

Winter Semester 2006/2007

[Class Website](#)

Overview

- Types of lexical information: syntax
 - Sentence structure - “syntax”, “phrasal syntax”
 - Syntactic categories
 - parts of speech (POS)
 - subcategories
 - phrasal categories
- The structure of language: constitutive relations:
 - structural relations
 - syntagmatic relations
 - paradigmatic relations
 - semiotic relations
 - interpretation relations
 - realisation relations
- Text structure - “text syntax”

SYNTAX

(SENTENCE SYNTAX)

Words: context, external structure

- Words occur in contexts like this:

Mr Bush accepted Mr Rumsfeld's resignation after November mid-elections in which the Republicans lost control of both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Public discontent over the conduct of the Iraq war was seen as a major factor in the defeat.

- Task:
 - Identify the part of speech of each word in this text

Noun categories: determiners

- Articles:
 - definite: the
 - indefinite: a
- Possessives:
 - my, your, his, her, its, our, their
- Demonstratives:
 - proximal: this
 - distal: that
- Quantifiers:
 - cardinal numerals: one, two, ...
 - existential: some, several, few, many, ...
 - dual: both
 - universal: each, every, all, ...

Noun categories: adjectives

- Adjective types:
 - scalar:
 - small ... big
 - cold ... hot
 - hairless ... hairy
 - polar:
 - alive / dead
 - married / unmarried
 - appraisive (scalar or polar?):
 - good
 - great
 - wonderful
 - ordinal:
 - first, second, ...
- Special feature of scalar adjectives:
 - “adverbs” of degree:
 - very
 - highly
 - extremely
 - incredibly

Noun categories: nouns

- Proper nouns:
 - names:
 - personal
 - place
 - product
 - ...
- Common nouns:
 - Countable nouns:
 - knife, fork, spoon
 - Mass nouns (uncountable nouns):
 - bread (a slice of bread)
 - butter (a piece of butter)
 - jam (a spoonful of jam)
- Task:
 - What happens when you count “uncountable” nouns?

Noun categories: pronouns

- Personal pronouns:
 - I/me, you, he/him, she/her, we/us, they
- Possessive pronouns:
 - mine, yours, his, hers, its, ours, theirs
- Demonstrative pronouns
 - proximal: this
 - distal: that, yonder (archaic)
- Quantifier pronouns
 - cardinal numerals: one, two, ...
 - existential: some, several, few, many, ...
 - dual: both
 - universal: each, every, all, ...
- Relative pronouns
 - *more like conjunctions*

Verb categories: verbs

- Main verbs:
 - finite forms:
 - person (1st, 2nd, 3rd)
 - number (singular, plural)
 - tense (present, past)
 - non-finite forms
 - infinitive
 - participle:
 - present
 - perfect
- Periphrastic verbs (auxiliary verb + non-finite main verb):
 - modal: can, may, will, shall; ought, ...
 - aspectual: be+prespart (continuous), have+pastpart (perfect)
 - passive: be+pastpart

it might have been being repaired

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it might have been being repaired
modal perfect continuous passive main verb

Verb categories: adverbs

- Deictic:
 - here, there; now, then
- Time:
 - soon
- Place:
 - source
 - path
 - goal
- Direction
 - into, ...
 - towards
- Manner
- Degree
 - *better dealt with in connection with adjectives*

Glue categories: prepositions

- Basically - make nominal expressions into adverbial expressions
- Pretty much categories as adverbs
- Except the “all purpose preposition” *of*
- Tasks:
 - What is the meaning of “of”?
 - Construct prepositional phrases corresponding to the types of adverbs

Glue categories: conjunctions

- Co-ordinating conjunctions:
 - and, but
- Subordinating conjunctions:
 - conjunction-like relative pronouns
 - make sentences (clauses) into adjective-like noun modifiers
 - basically:
 - make sentence (clauses) into adverb-like verb modifiers
- Task:
 - find examples of conjunctions of each type

Glue categories: interjections

- Interjections link parts of dialogues together:
 - “Hi!”
 - “er”
 - “huh?”
- They may also be expressions of subjective reactions:
 - “Ouch!”
 - “Wow!”
- Task:
 - find examples of 5 different interjections (not the ones listed here)

THE STRUCTURE OF LANGUAGE

The sign hierarchy: ranks

- Signs are structured in terms of their position in a size hierarchy; the positions in the hierarchy are sometimes referred to as *ranks*.
- The main ranks (there are subdivisions) are:
 - dialogue
 - monologue/text
 - sentence
 - word
 - morpheme
 - phoneme
- Signs at each of these ranks have
 - structure (internal and external)
 - semiotic relations (functions and realisations)

Ranks below the word level

<i>SIGN rank</i>	Internal structure	External structure	Interpretation	Realisation
<i>word:</i>	stems, affixes	Functional parts of sentences	Complex states, properties, events, ...	Phonemes; word prosody
<i>morpheme:</i>	phonemes, syllables	Parts of words	Simple states, properties, events, ...	
<i>phoneme:</i>	distinctive features	syllables	Encoding of morphemes into sounds	Phonetic segments; allophones of phonemes

Ranks above the word level

<i>SIGN rank</i>	Internal structure	External structure	Interpretation	Realisation
<i>dialogue:</i>	turns, texts	Social interaction	Communication	Prosody, gesture
<i>text:</i>	sentences	Components of dialogues	Speech acts	Prosody, gesture
<i>sentence:</i>	phrases, words	Parts of narrative, argumentative texts, etc.	Propositions	Prosody, rhythm

Ranks: the full picture

<i>SIGN rank</i>	Internal structure	External structure	Interpretation	Realisation
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Text structure

Cream of mushroom soup

INGREDIENTS:

- * 4 Tablespoons butter, divided use
- * 8 ounces mushrooms
- * 1 teaspoon salt
- * 1 medium sweet onion, chopped
- * 1/4 cup flour
- * 1/4 teaspoon white pepper, or to taste
- * 2 cans (10-3/4 ounces each) chicken broth
- * 1/8 tsp ground nutmeg
- * 1 cup heavy cream
- * Chopped parsley for garnish

PREPARATION:

Clean mushrooms with a mushroom brush or damp paper towel. Cut half of the mushrooms into slices. Chop the remainder. Melt half of the butter in a large saucepan and saute sliced mushrooms until golden. Remove and reserve sliced mushrooms. Add remaining butter to the same pan, along with the chopped mushrooms and sweet onions. Sprinkle with salt. Cook, stirring often, until onion is soft. Return sliced mushrooms to the pan. Add flour and cook, stirring constantly about 2 minutes, until smooth. Slowly add chicken broth while stirring. Simmer, stirring often, until thickened. Add nutmeg and pepper. Taste and adjust seasoning, if need be. Add heavy cream and bring to a simmer. (Do not boil.) Ladle into soup bowls and garnish with chopped parsley. Yield: 2 entree servings or 4 smaller appetizer servings

Text structure

Baseball Heaven

Two old guys, Abe and Sol, are sitting on a park bench feeding pigeons and talking about baseball, like they do every day. Abe turns to Sol and says, "Do you think there's baseball in heaven?" Sol thinks about it for a minute and replies, "I dunno. But let's make a deal: if I die first, I'll come back and tell you if there's baseball in heaven, and if you die first, you do the same." They shake on it and sadly, a few months later, poor Abe passes on. One day soon afterward, Sol is sitting there feeding the pigeons by himself when he hears a voice whisper, "Sol... Sol..." Sol responds, "Abe! Is that you?" "Yes it is, Sol," whispers Abe's ghost. Sol, still amazed, asks, "So, is there baseball in heaven?" "Well," says Abe, "I've got good news and bad news." "Gimme the good news first," says Sol. Abe says, "Well... there is baseball in heaven." Sol says, "That's great! What news could be bad enough to ruin that!?" Abe sighs and whispers, "You're pitching on Friday."

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Knitting a scarf: Section 1

(Set-up Rows)

CO 2 sts.

Row 1: P1, pfb.

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The screenshot shows the CNN International website in a Mozilla Firefox browser window. The address bar displays 'http://edition.cnn.com/'. The page features the CNN logo, navigation links for 'Home Page', 'Asia', 'Europe', 'U.S.', 'World', 'World Business', 'Technology', 'Science & Space', 'Entertainment', 'World Sport', 'Travel', 'Weather', 'Special Reports', 'Video', 'The Briefing Room', and 'I-Reports'. A main article titled 'Friend: I know who poisoned spy' is prominently displayed, featuring a photo of a man in a hospital bed. The right sidebar contains a 'LATEST NEWS' section with headlines such as 'Chavez: New 'defeat for the devil'', 'Annan: Iraq 'worse than civil war'', and 'Bush knows 'Iraq changes needed''. The page footer includes the URL 'http://edition.cnn.com/2006/WORLD/asiapcf/12/04/philippines.typhoon.ap/index.html'.

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TEXT STRUCTURE

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December 4, 2006 - Updated 12:10 GMT (2010 HKT)

Friend: I know who poisoned spy

A U.S.-based friend of a poisoned Russian ex-spy says he has given police the name of a suspect he believes orchestrated the killing of Alexander Litvinenko.

UK police investigating the death of Litvinenko have officially requested assistance from their Russian counterparts and are due in Moscow as early as Monday to collect information.

FULL STORY

- Police follow trail of polonium-210

LATEST NEWS

TOP STORIES MOST POPULAR

- Chavez: New 'defeat for the devil' | Video | Analysis
- Annan: Iraq 'worse than civil war' | Bloodiest days
- Bush knows 'Iraq changes needed' | U.S. chopper ditches
- Journalists cleared over Iraq leak
- Violence hits Lebanon protests | Video | Gallery
- Pinochet in critical condition | Dictator 'responsible'
- Hopes fade for mudslide survivors | Video | Vietnam braces
- Woman allegedly sets boyfriend on fire
- Pete Doherty fined on drugs charges
- Fires may have wiped out healthy koalas
- Hoggard raises England Ashes hopes
- Thierry Henry seeks month's rest
- CNN Wire: Latest updates on world's top stories

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TEXTS as
TEXT PARTS

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The screenshot shows the CNN.com International website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'SEARCH' and 'THE WEB' options. The main content area features a large article titled "Friend: I know who poisoned spy" with a photo of a man in a hospital bed. To the right, there's a "LATEST NEWS" section with several headlines. A yellow box with the text "TEXTS as TEXT PARTS" is overlaid on the left side of the screenshot, with red arrows pointing to various elements on the page, including the search bar, the article title, and the main image.

STRUCTURE

and

CONSTITUTIVE RELATIONS

What is structure?

- Language structure is determined by following kinds of constitutive relation:
 - structural relations:
 - syntagmatic relations:
 - “glue” 😊
 - combinatory relations which create larger signs (and their realisations and interpretations) from smaller signs (and their realisations and interpretations)
 - paradigmatic relations:
 - “choice” 😊
 - classificatory relations of similarity and difference between signs.
 - semiotic relations:
 - realisation: the visual appearance or acoustic representation of signs (other senses may also be involved).
 - interpretation: the assignment of meaning to a sign.

SYNTAGMATIC RELATIONS

Syntagmatic relations

- syntagmatic relations - linguistic “glue”:
 - combinatory relations which create larger signs (and their realisations and interpretations) from smaller signs (and their realisations and interpretations)
- Examples:
 - Phonology:
 - Cs and Vs are glued together as *core* and *periphery* of **syllables**.
 - Morphology:
 - lexical morphemes and affixes are glued together into **stems**.
 - stems are glued together into **compound stems**.
 - stems and inflections are glued together into **words**.
 - Syntax:
 - nouns and verbs are glued together as the *subjects* and *verbs* of **sentences**.

Structures and syntagmatic relations

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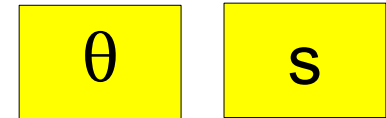
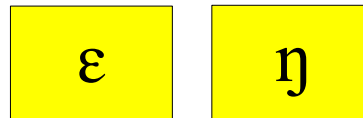
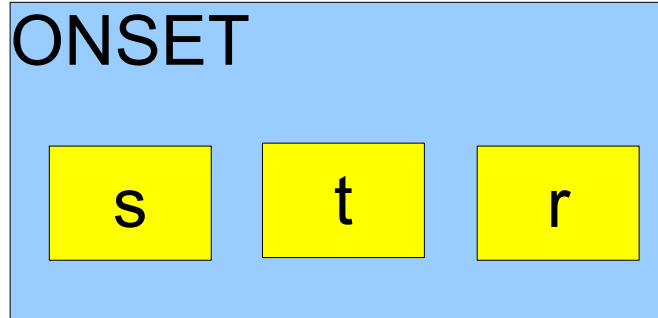
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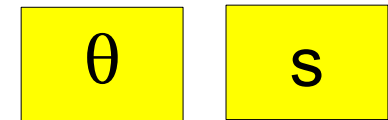
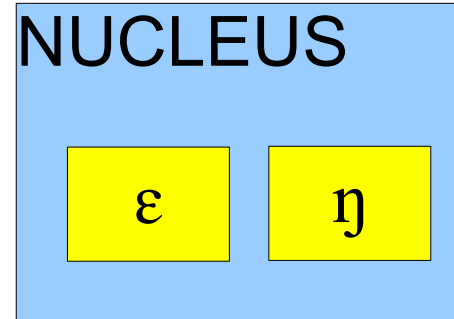
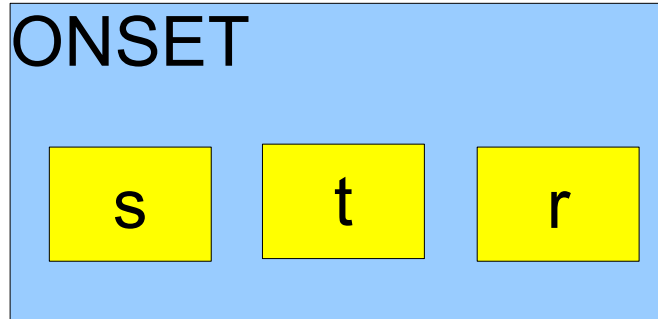
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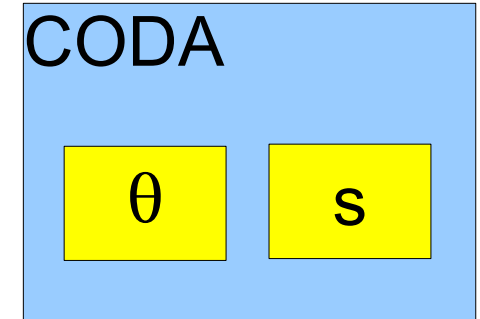
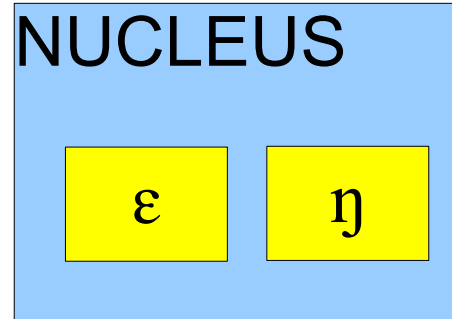
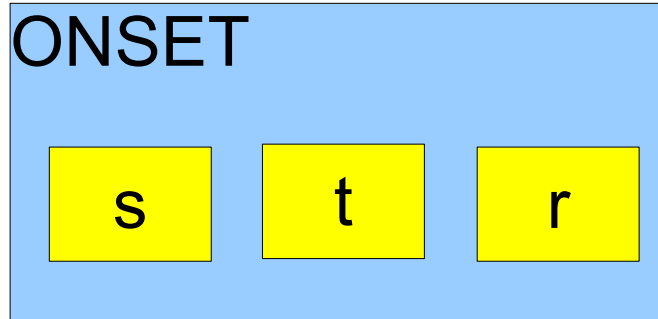
Structures and syntagmatic relations



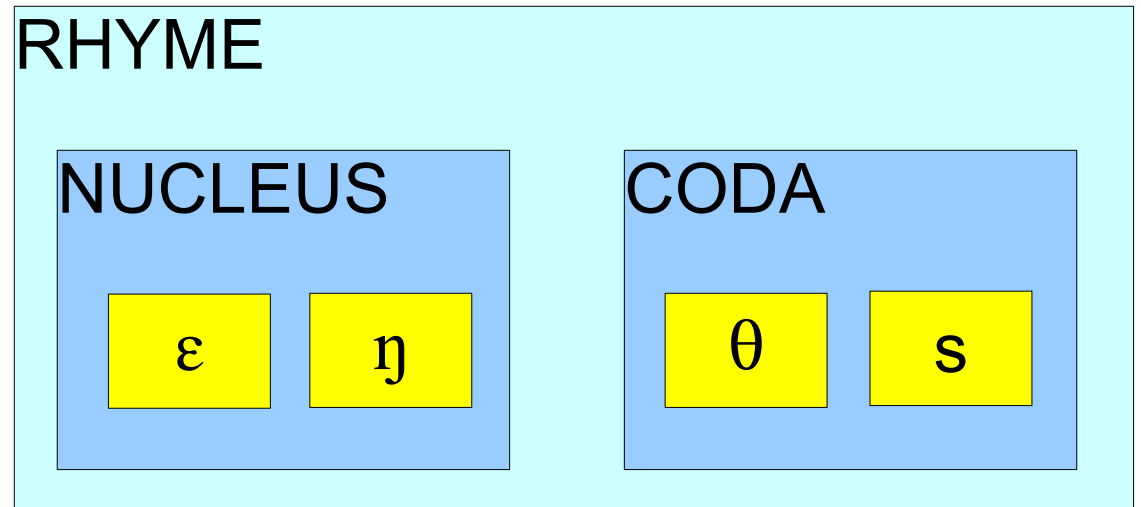
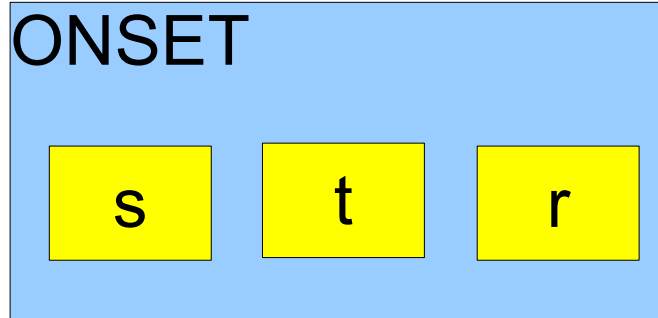
Structures and syntagmatic relations



Structures and syntagmatic relations



Structures and syntagmatic relations



Structures and syntagmatic relations

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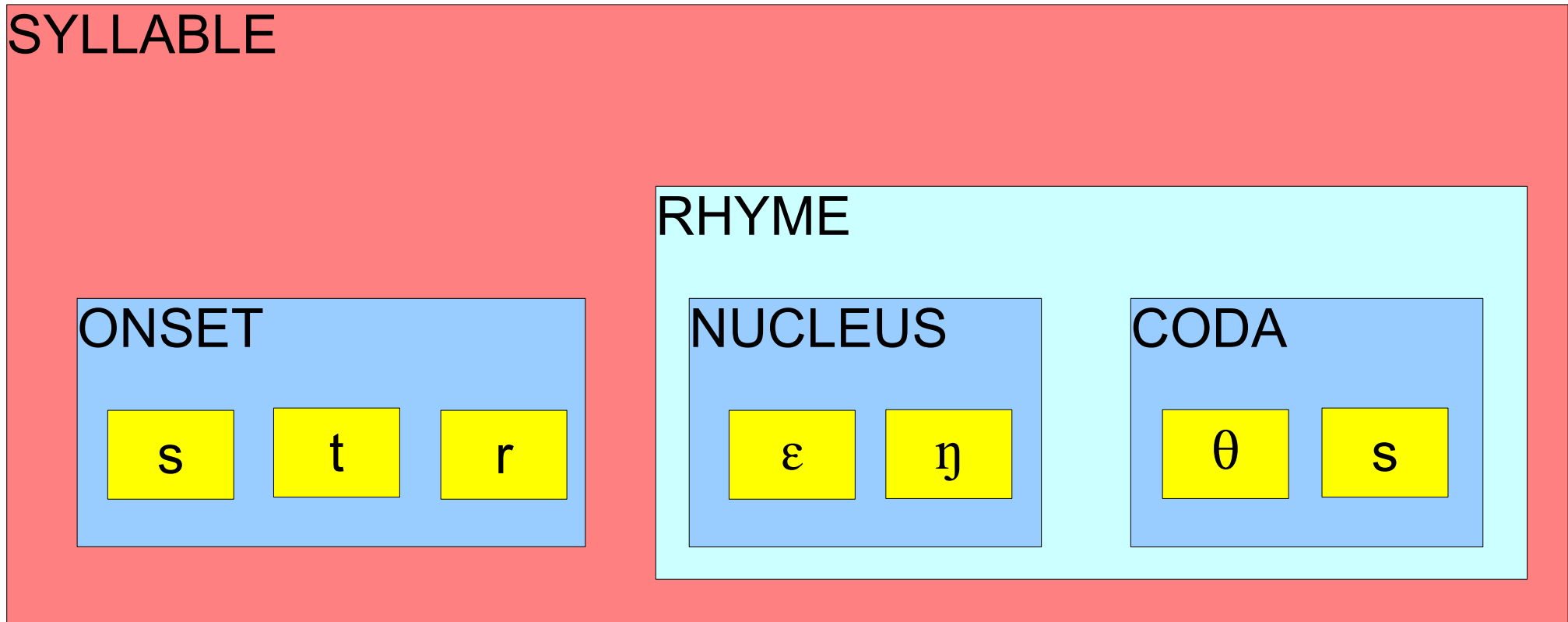
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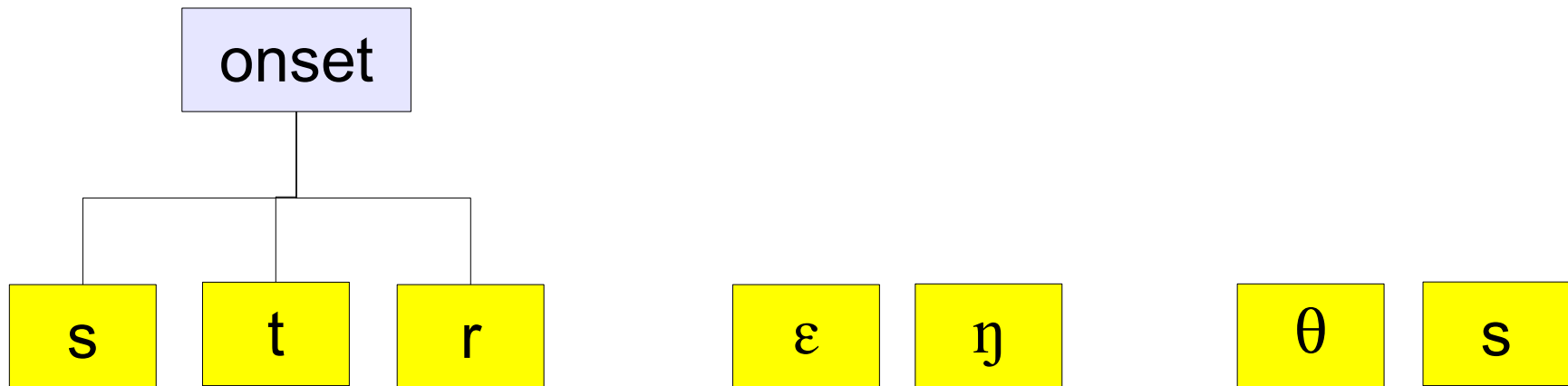
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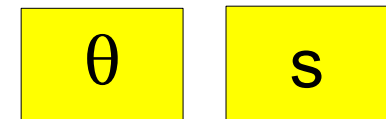
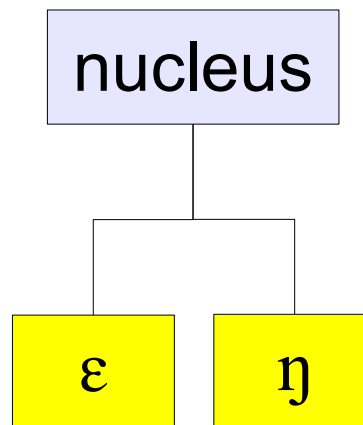
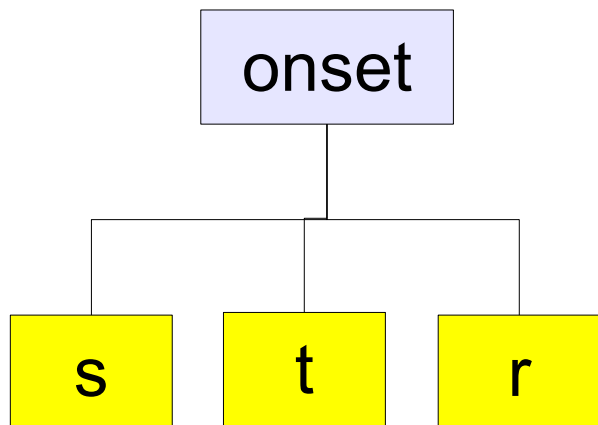
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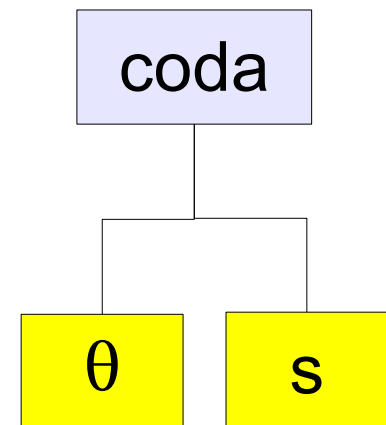
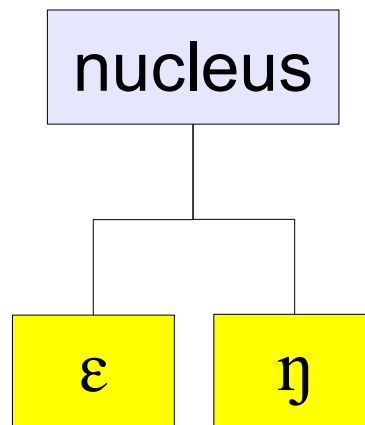
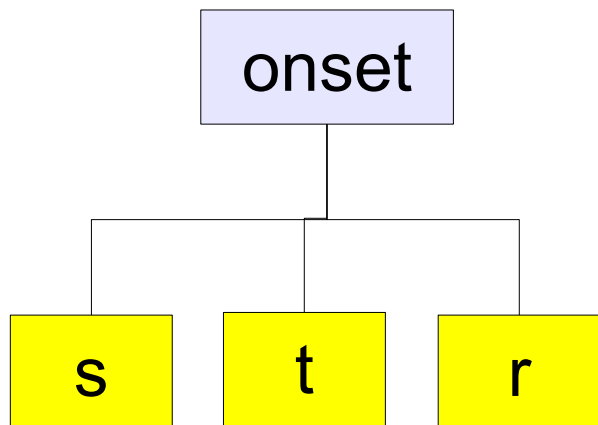
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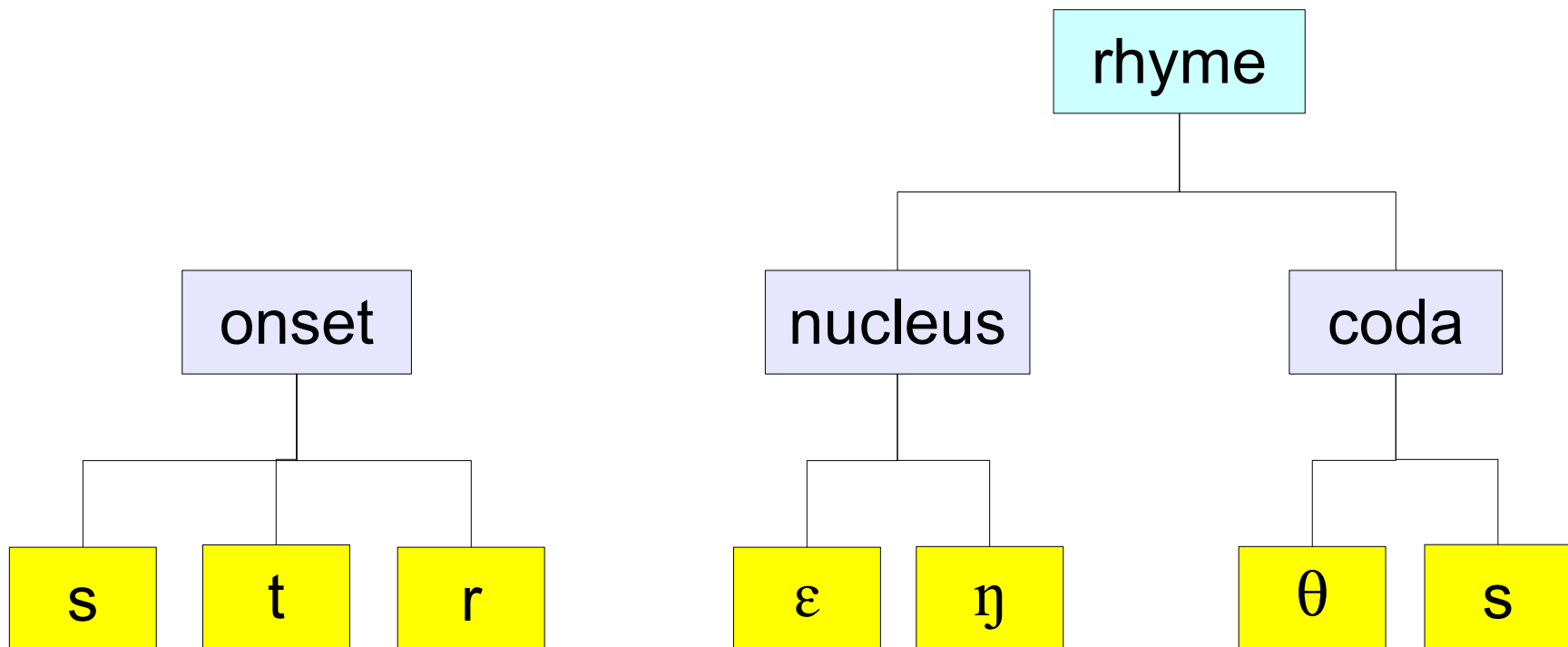
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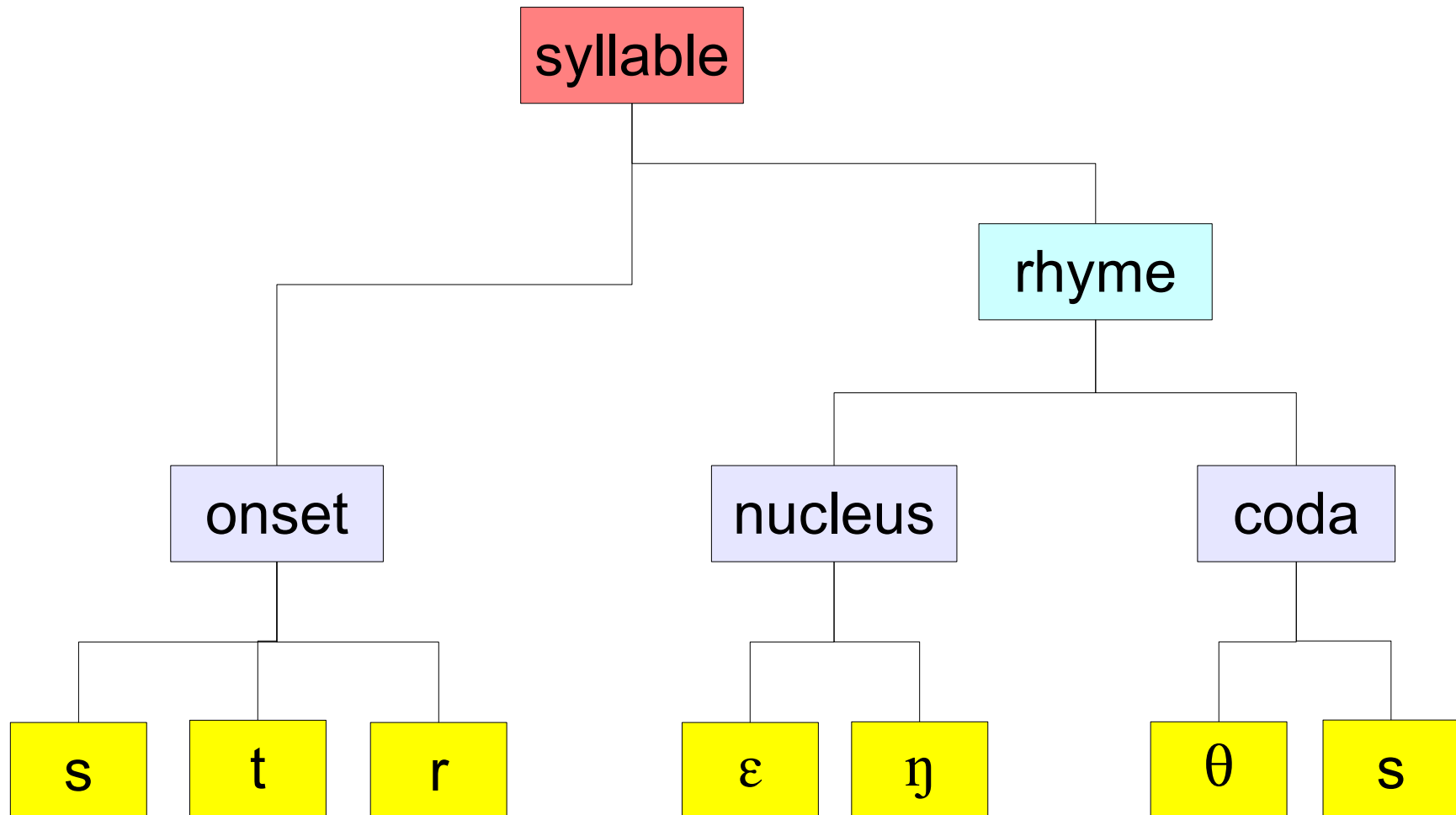
Structures and syntagmatic relations



Structures and syntagmatic relations



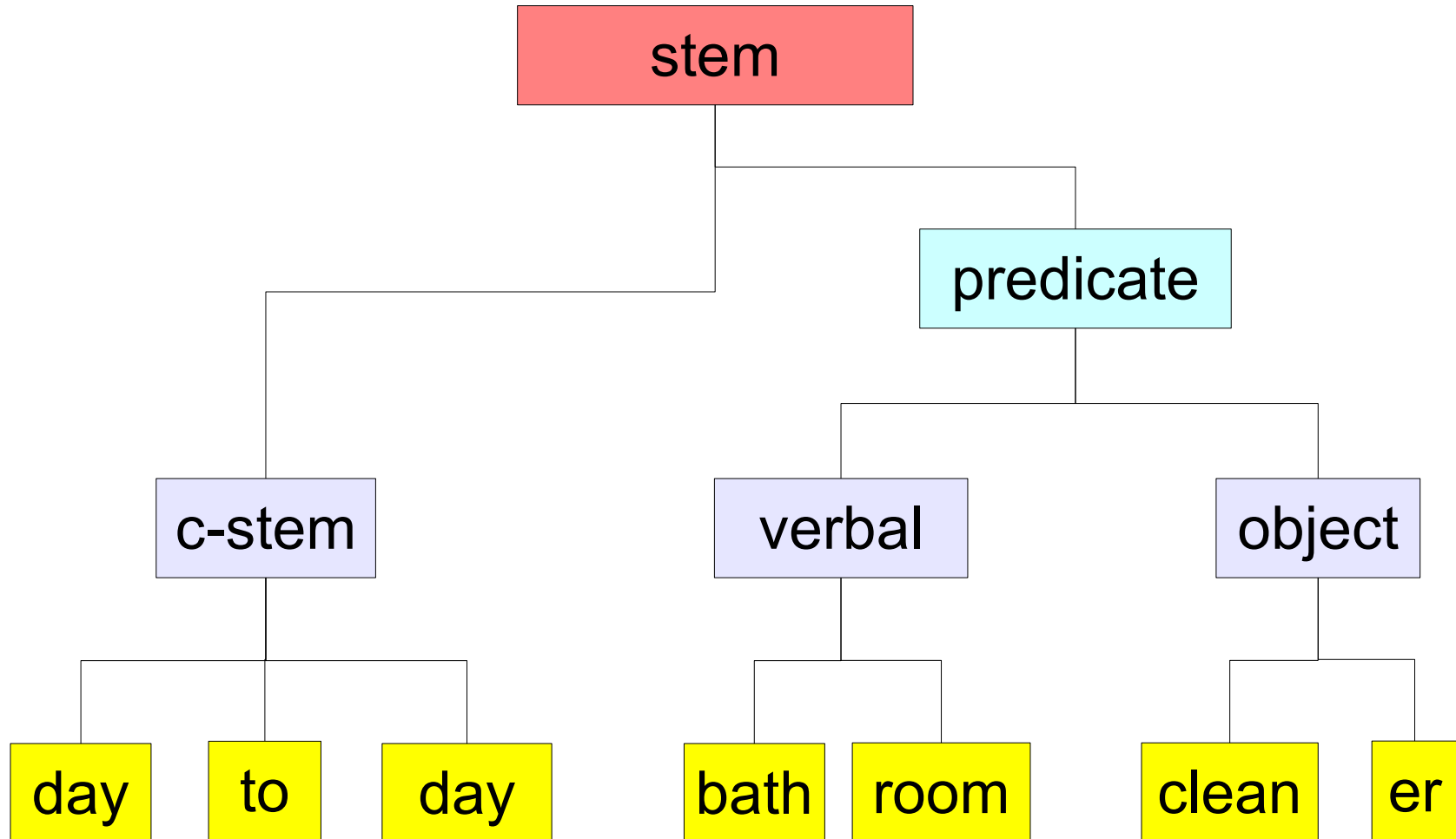
Structures and syntagmatic relations



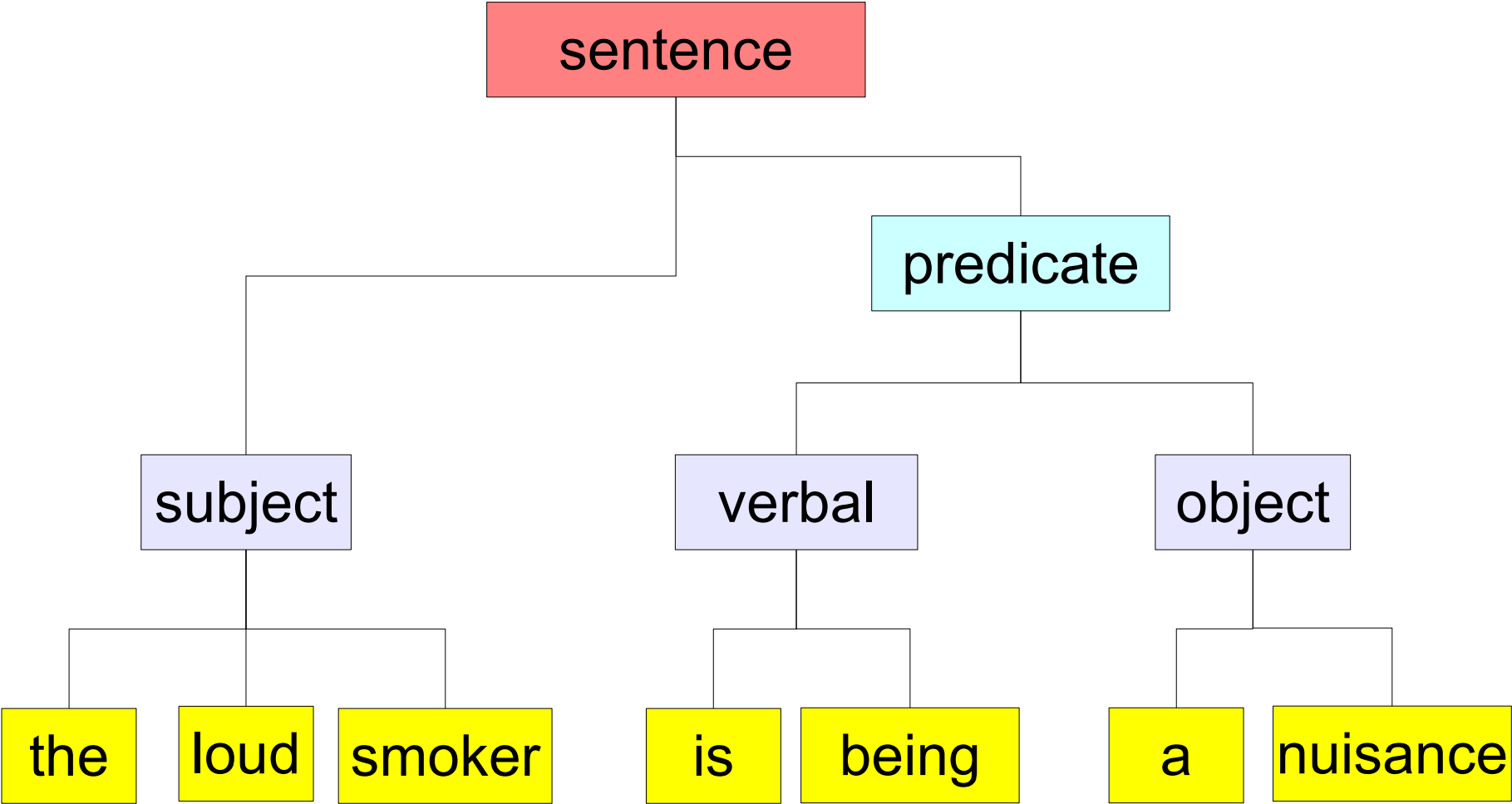
Other syntagmatic relations

- Syntagmatic relations are very often hierarchical.
 - Therefore to some extent, structures in
 - phonology
 - morphology
 - syntax
 - can be similar, if they are hierarchical

Morphological syntagmatic relations



Syntactic syntagmatic relations



Paradigmatic relations

- Paradigmatic relations: classificatory relations of similarity and difference between signs.
 - similarity and difference of
 - internal structure
 - external structure
 - meaning
 - appearance
- Tasks:
 - How many items in total in the *left*, *mid*, and *right* sets?
 - How many items in the syllable set shown?
 - How many of these actually exist, and how many do not?



SEMIOTIC RELATIONS

Interpretation relations

- Meanings of signs
 - lexical semantics

- ... after Christmas...

Realisation relations

- Phonology
-
-
- *We have dealt with these already...*

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!