

# Semantics

Exercise 1: Identify *the semantic features* in each of the following words:

1 Child:

2 Aunt:

3 Flower

4 Bachelor:

5 Actress:

6 Beauty:

7 Drive:

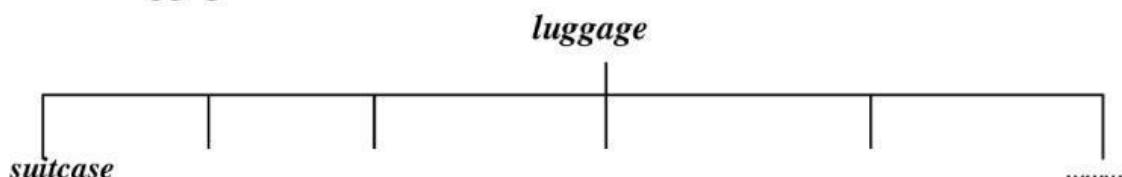
8 Rose:

9 Computer:

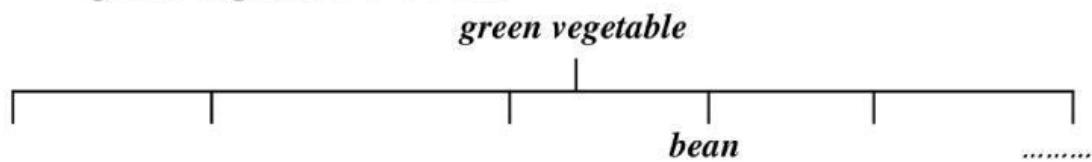
10 Pap:

Exercise 2: Draw a chart to show the relationship between *a superordinate and a hyponym*.

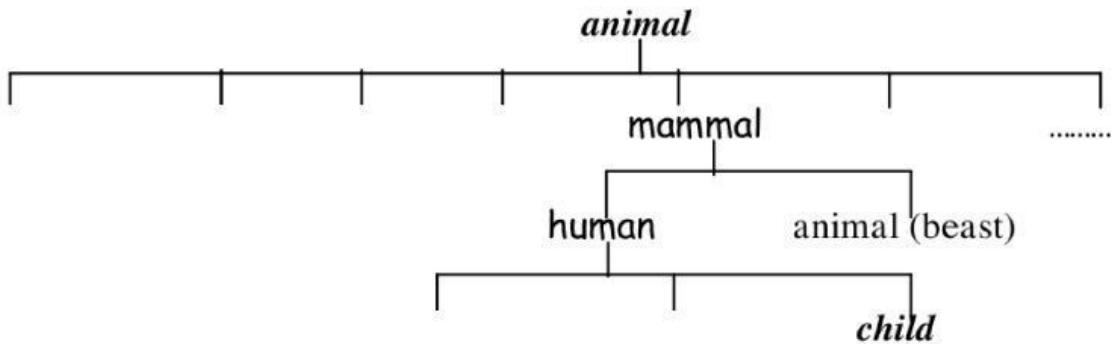
1. *luggage* and *suitcase*



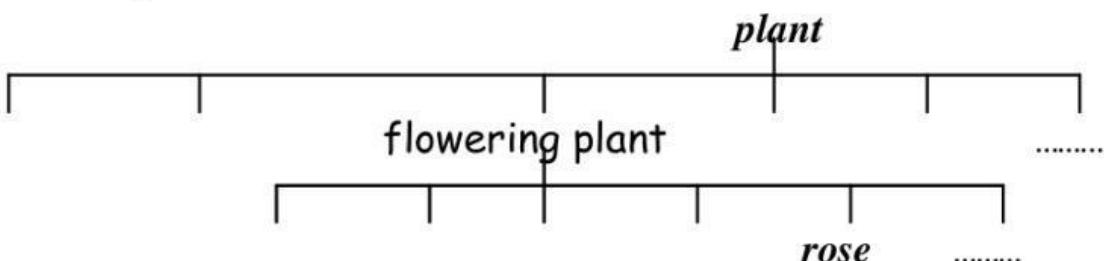
2. *green vegetable* and *bean*



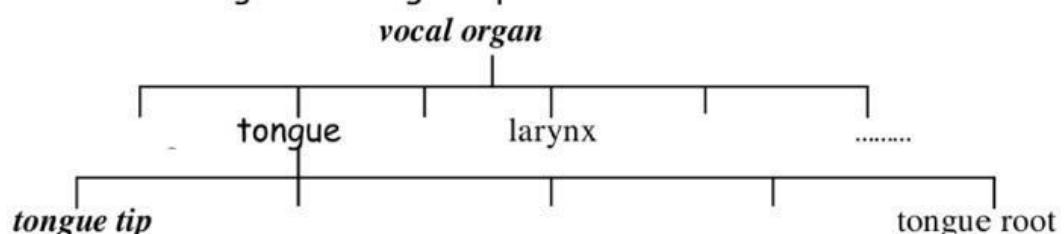
3 . animal and child



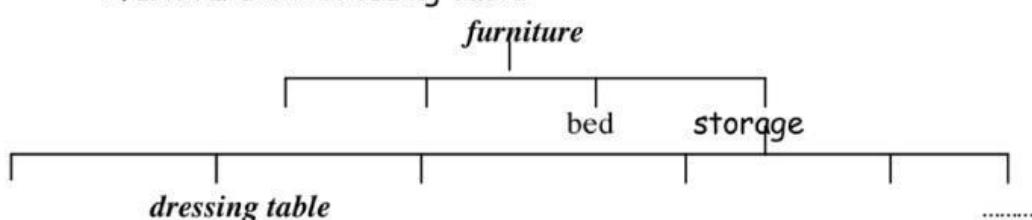
4 . plant and rose



5 . vocal organ and tongue tip



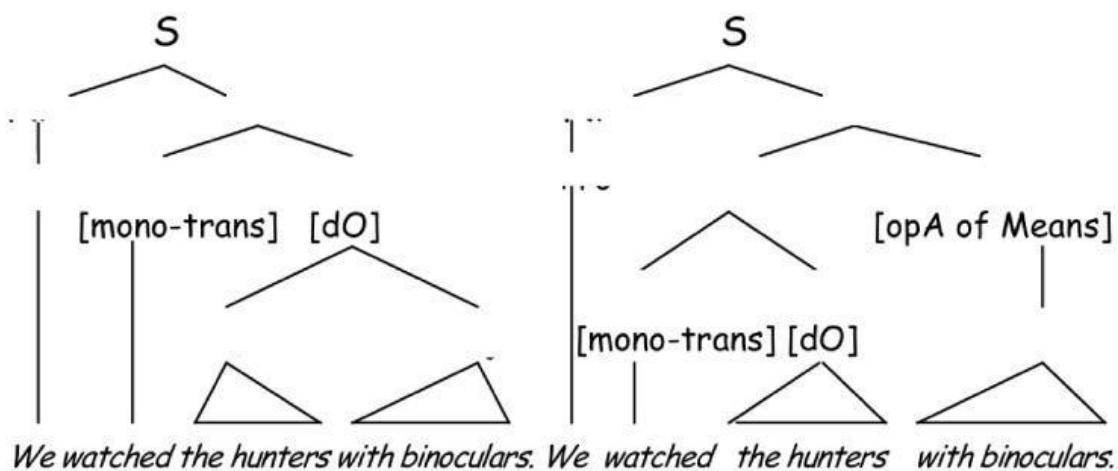
6 . furniture and dressing table



Exercise 3: Give the phonemic transcription shared by two members of each of the given pairs of words to identify them as a pair of homophones. The first one is done as an example.

1. <i>altar</i>	/'ɔ:lta(r)/	11. <i>herd</i>	<i>heard</i>
2. <i>beech</i>		12. <i>knight</i>	<i>night</i>
3. <i>boar</i>		13. <i>nose</i>	<i>knows</i>
4. <i>coarse</i>		14. <i>leek</i>	<i>leak</i>
5. <i>crews</i>		15. <i>maid</i>	<i>made</i>
6. <i>deer</i>		16. <i>pail</i>	<i>pale</i>
7. <i>draft</i>		17. <i>reign</i>	<i>rain</i>
8. <i>fare</i>		18. <i>scene</i>	<i>seen</i>
9. <i>flour</i>		19. <i>thrown</i>	<i>throne</i>
10. <i>grate</i>		20. <i>whole</i>	<i>hole</i>

Exercise 4: Fill in the blanks to complete the tree diagram to show the *structural ambiguity* of the sentence.



Exercise 5: What is the relationship between the words in the following pairs? If the words are antonyms, specify what kind of antonyms they are. The italic words in the bracket are to clarify the meaning in question of the given words. The first one is done as an example.

1. *true* -- *false*: binary antonymy
2. *gloom* -- *darkness*: \_\_\_\_\_
3. *dark* (as in *a dark room*) -- *dark* (as in *Don't look on the dark side of things*): \_\_\_\_\_
4. *wind* (as in *The wind is blowing hard*) -- *wind* (as in *wind one's watch*): \_\_\_\_\_
5. *deny* -- *admit*: \_\_\_\_\_
6. *host* -- *guest*: \_\_\_\_\_
7. *sow* (as in *sow a field with wheat*) -- *sow* (meaning *a female pig*): \_\_\_\_\_
8. *pupil* (at a school) -- *pupil* (of an eye): \_\_\_\_\_
9. *cheap* -- *expensive*: \_\_\_\_\_
10. *coarse* -- *course*: \_\_\_\_\_

Exercise 6: Explain ***the lexical ambiguity*** in each of the following sentences by providing two sentences that paraphrase its two different meanings. The first one is done as an example.

1. *They were waiting at the bank.*

Meaning one: *They were waiting at the financial institution.*

Meaning two: *They were waiting at the shore of the river.*

2. *The long drill is boring.*

Meaning one: \_\_\_\_\_

Meaning two: \_\_\_\_\_

3. *When he got the clear title to the land, it was a good deed.*

Meaning one: \_\_\_\_\_

Meaning two: \_\_\_\_\_

4. *The proprietor of the fish store was the sole owner.*

Meaning one: \_\_\_\_\_

Meaning two: \_\_\_\_\_

5. *We like the ball.*

Meaning one: \_\_\_\_\_

Meaning two: \_\_\_\_\_

6. *He was knocked over by the punch.*

Meaning one: \_\_\_\_\_

Meaning two: \_\_\_\_\_

**Exercise 7 :** Does ***polysemy*** or ***homonymy*** contribute to ***the lexical ambiguity*** in each of the two given sentences.

(1) *She cannot bear children.*

(2) *The cat sat on the mat.*

**Exercise** 8 : Explain *the structural ambiguity* in each of the following sentences.

1. *The drunkard visitor rolled up the carpet.*      6. *They are cooking bananas.*
2. *Is he really that kind?*      7. *They are moving sidewalks.*
3. *My fiancée is reserved.*      8. *John loves Richard more than Martha.*
4. *I saw her slip.*      9. *Old men and women will be served first.*
5. *I saw her duck*      10. *The thing that bothered Bill was crouching under the table.*