

## Exercises

## Exercise 6a (answers on p. 207)

Draw tree diagrams (complete with form and function labels) of sentences (5) and (7) on pp. 94, 95 respectively.

## Exercise 6b (answers on p. 208)

Each of the following sentences contains one subordinate clause. For each clause, (i) describe its structure in terms of *cl*, *S*, *P*, *O*, *C*, *A*; (ii) say whether it is a noun clause (NCl), an adverbial clause (ACl), or a relative clause (RCI); (iii) in the case of each adverbial clause, identify its meaning as time, condition, contrast, etc.

1. [When we asked her], she sang an old Patagonian lyric.
2. She sang out of tune, [so that everyone would go away].
3. I have forgotten [who gave us this present].
4. The person [who gave us this present] was my great uncle Cedric.
5. Steinhaecker had a large room [in which he kept gigantic frogs for his experiments].
6. [Why you bought that elephant gun] I cannot imagine.
7. [Although Paul is sometimes a grouch], I rather like him.
8. They tell me [he eats voraciously].
9. The snails [he eats voraciously] are expensive.

## Exercise 6c (answers on p. 208)

Identify the non-finite clauses bracketed in the following sentences as Cl, Cling, Clen, and say what function they have (e.g. *S*, *O*, *A*, *M*):

1. I regret [speaking to you so rudely].
2. I am very sorry [to have caused you offence].
3. [For Max to pay his gas-bill on time] would be very surprising.
4. I saw [Spurs beaten by Villa] last Saturday.
5. [Having remarkably strong teeth], Batman soon severed the ropes confining him.
6. I have several important things [to say to her].
7. [Duncan having retired for the night], Lady Macbeth put her sinister plan into effect.
8. [Always haunted by guilty memories], he lurked at the scene of his crime.

## Exercise 6d (answers on p. 208)

The following sentences are grammatically ambiguous. Show the ambiguities by giving two different skeleton analyses for each sentence. In each case, add a comment to explain how the ambiguity arises.

1. I regret criticising her bitterly.
2. I clearly remembered the time when I looked at my watch.

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3. I told him that I had written the essay before he gave the lecture.
4. To speak the truth frankly is an unsafe policy.

For the following, three different skeleton analyses can be given:

5. The combatants agreed to sign a peace treaty in Geneva last week.
6. We must ask the farmer who owns the fields where we can camp.
7. I found the dog smoking a cigar.

## Exercise 6e (answers on p. 209)

Here are some further ambiguities, this time involving coordination. Again, distinguish the different interpretations of the same sentence by different skeleton analyses, using angle brackets (< >) to enclose coordinate structures.

1. I love Danish butter and cheese.
2. Their officers always wear pink berets and moustaches.
3. She has passed her exams in French, German and English literature.
4. The manuscript is very old and difficult to read.
5. That evening we stayed indoors, reading and writing letters.
6. I was taught by the man who taught Mabel and the woman who taught you and Fred.
7. The neighbourhood is infested with stray cats and dogs of questionable parentage.
8. Mounifoy was a great lover and ardent student of English language and literature.