

Selection (subcategorization, cooccurrence restrictions, valence)

INTRANSITIVE

- (1) a. The problem disappeared.
b. *The student disappeared the problem.
- (2) a. The tree died.
b. *The acid rain died the tree.

TRANSITIVE

- (3) a. The defendant denied the accusation.
b. *The defendant denied.
- (4) a. Bill devoured his lunch.
b. *Bill devoured.

DITRANSITIVE

- (5) a. The teacher handed the student a book.
b. *The teacher handed a book.
c. *The teacher handed the student.
d. *The teacher handed.
- (6) a. The government deprived him of his right to counsel.
b. *The government deprived him.
c. *The government of his right to counsel.

Adjectives

- (7) a. John is subject to migraines.
b. *John is subject.

Prepositions

- (8) a. I love you despite your haircut.
b. *I love you despite.

Optionality

- (9) a. Bill was baking a cake.
b. Bill was baking.
- (10) a. Lucy made her mother a cake.
b. Lucy made a cake.
c. *Lucy made her mother. (=a), with 'her mother' as GOAL)
- (11) a. Sam is angry at Danielle.
b. Sam is angry.
- (12) a. John is in the house.
b. John is in.

Selection of particular lexical heads

- (13) a. Sam is angry {at, *of, *in} Danielle.
- b. Sam is suspicious {*at, of, *in} Danielle.
- c. Sam is interested {*at, *of, in} Danielle.
- (14) a. Susan relies *(on) Fred.
- b. *Susan relies {at, in, of, by, for} Fred.

Nouns

- (15) a. His trust {in, *on, *at} the government was misplaced.
- b. His trust was misplaced. (cf. faith, belief)
- (16) a. I would like to hear your thoughts {*in, on, *at} this.
- b. I would like to hear your thoughts.