

## Glossary and Abbreviations

At the end of each chapter, there is a list of key terms. These are the most relevant and should be understood. The glossary tries to be somewhat comprehensive, and lists key terms, abbreviations, non-key terms, and some common terminology not used in this book, e.g. attributive adjective, but perhaps used elsewhere. Don't attempt to memorize the glossary! There is also an index to the book so if the definitions in the glossary do not suffice, check the index.

accusative case	The case of the object or prepositional object, only visible on pronouns in English, e.g. <i>me</i> , in <i>He saw me</i> , also called the objective case.
active	A sentence in which the doer of the action is the subject, as in <i>I saw an elephant</i> .
Adj	= adjective.
Adj'	Adjective-bar, intermediate category, see chapter 9, section 1.
adjective	A word which often describes qualities, e.g. <i>proud</i> , <i>intelligent</i> , or physical characteristics, e.g. <i>short</i> , <i>strong</i> .
adjective complement	Complement to an adjective, e.g. <i>of him</i> in <i>proud [of him]</i> , see chapter 9, section 1.
AdjP	= Adjective Phrase: group of words centered around an adjective, e.g. <i>very nice</i> .
adjunct	Term not used in this book; alternative for 'adverbial', see there.
Adv	= adverb, i.e. the category
Adv-ial	= adverbial, i.e. the function
adverb	E.g. <i>proudly</i> ; it is similar to an adjective but it modifies a verb, adjective, or other adverb, whereas an adjective modifies a noun.
adverbial	A function at sentence level providing the background on where, when, how, and why the event described in the VP takes place.
AdvP	= Adverb Phrase: group of words centered around an adverb, e.g. <i>very nicely</i> .
affix	Cannot stand on its own, e.g. an ending such as <i>-ing</i> , see table 6.3.
affix-hop	Process where an affix belonging to an auxiliary 'hops' and attaches to the verb immediately to the right of the auxiliary, see chapter 6 and table 6.3.
agreement	E.g. <i>-s</i> in <i>she walks</i> , ending on the verb that 'agrees' with the subject.
ambiguity/ambiguous	Word (lexical ambiguity) or sentence (structural ambiguity) with more than one meaning, see chapters 1 and 3.
antecedent	What a pronoun refers to, e.g. the noun that a relative pronoun such as <i>who</i> refers to in <i>the man who(m) I saw</i> , see chapter 9 and 10. Antecedent is used more generally though for any pronoun that refers to a noun.
antonym	A word with the opposite meaning, e.g. <i>hot/cold</i> , <i>good/bad</i> , chapter 2.

appositive NP	The second NP in <i>Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras</i> , see chapter 3. It rephrases the first and provides extra information; similar to a non-restrictive relative clause.
appositive relative clause	Another word for non-restrictive relative clause, see chapter 10 and below.
article	<i>A, an, the</i> in English, see chapter 2, section 2.1.
aspect	When the character of the action is emphasized, as in <i>he is reading</i> , rather than when the action took place, chapter 6.
attributive adjective	Term not used in this book; an adjective that modifies a Noun inside an NP.
AUX auxiliary	= auxiliary, see below. A `verb' that cannot stand on its own, but that `helps' (combines with) another verb, e.g. <i>have</i> in <i>They have seen a riot</i> , see chapters 2 and 6 and table 6.1.
bare infinitive branch	Infinitive without a <i>to</i> , e.g. <i>leave</i> in <i>I saw her leave</i> , see chapter 8. A line that marks the relationship between two nodes in tree; it shows how a phrase is divided up, see chapter 3, section 1.
BrE	British English
C	= complementizer, see below.
case	In English, case is only visible on pronouns. Thus, <i>she</i> in <i>She saw me</i> has nominative case, i.e. is used in subject position, and <i>me</i> has accusative or objective case, i.e. is used in object position.
clause	Unit containing a lexical verb, see also main clause, subordinate clause, see chapters 7, 8, and 10.
cleft	A construction of the form <i>It is Catweazle who caused the problems</i> , see chapter 11.
coathanger	Not dividing a phrase into separate branches (to save space); used rarely in this book.
comma splice	A comma between two independent clauses, see extra topic chapter 11.
comparative	Forms such as <i>greater</i> that compare one situation or entity with another.
complement	There are complement to V, N, Adj, and P. Complements to VPs are divided into direct and indirect object, subject predicate, object predicate, prepositional and phrasal object. Nouns, adjectives, and prepositions can also have complements, see chapters 3, 9, and 10.
complementizer	E.g. <i>that/if/whether</i> , connects two clauses, one subordinate to the other, see chapters 2 and 7.
complex transitive	A verb with a direct object and an object predicate, see chapter 4, section 2.
conjunction	Not generally used in this book, except in quotes and to indicate an alternative phrasing. It is a general term to describe a word that joins two or more words or phrases or sentences together. There

	are subordinating ( <i>that</i> ) and coordinating ( <i>and</i> ) conjunctions, see chapter 2, section 2.3.
consonant	Sound such as <i>b, p, f, v, t, k</i> , made by somehow modifying the airstream, see chapter 1, 1.1. for use in a rule.
constituent	Not used in this book; a group of words that form a unit, typically a phrase.
contraction	A word that is shortened, e.g. <i>he's</i> for <i>he has</i> , see special topic chapter 6.
coordination	Connecting two phrases or clauses that are equal to each other by means of e.g. <i>and</i> , see chapter 3, section 3.
coordinating conjunction	Not used in this book; same as coordinator, see there.
coordinator	Connects two phrases or clauses that are equal to each other, e.g. <i>and/or</i> , see chapter 2, also called coordinating conjunction.
copula	A verb with a subject predicative, typically <i>to be</i> or <i>to become</i> , see chapter 4, section 2.
D	= determiner.
(D)Adv	Degree adverb, see below, and usually designated as Adv.
dangling modifier	An adverbial clause whose subject is not the same as the subject of the main sentence, see special topic chapter 8.
daughter	For example, P is a daughter of a PP, i.e. lower in the tree but connected to the 'mother' by a branch, see chapter 3, section 2, table 2.3.
declarative	A neutral sentence that is a statement, not a question or command.
degree adverb	Adverbs that indicate degree, e.g. <i>very, too, so, more, most, quite, rather</i> , see chapter 2, section 1.2.
descriptivism	Describing what language users really say, as opposed to what they 'should' say, see chapter 1.
determiner	Word that points or specifies, e.g. <i>the</i> , see chapter 2, section 2.1.
direct object	Object of a verb such as <i>eat, see, and enjoy</i> . For instance, <i>him</i> in <i>They saw him</i> , see chapter 4.
ditransitive	Verb that has both a direct and indirect object, e.g. <i>tell, give</i> , see chapter 4.
dummy	A word used to fulfill a grammatical requirement, see dummy <i>do</i> and dummy subject below.
dummy <i>do</i>	If no auxiliary is present in a sentence, <i>do</i> is used with questions and negatives, see chapter 6.
dummy subject	If a subject is not present, <i>it</i> or <i>there</i> are used, also see pleonastic subject, see special topic to chapter 5.
echo question	Question formed by special intonation, as in <i>You saw WHAT?</i> See chapter 11.
<i>ed</i> -participle	See past participle.
elided/elision	Word or phrase left out to avoid repetition, e.g. in <i>He wrote a poem and painted a pictures</i> , the subject of <i>painted</i> has been left out.

ellipsis	Word or phrase left out to avoid repetition.
embedded sentence/clause	A clause or sentence inside another phrase or sentence/clause, see chapter 7.
emphasizer	Words such as <i>even</i> and <i>just</i> that are used to emphasize a phrase, also called focusser, see chapter 9.
exclamation or exclamative	Sentences such as <i>Man, what a fool he is!!</i> , see chapter 11.
extraposed/ extraposition	When an embedded clause (usually in subject position) is placed at the end of the sentence, e.g. <i>It was nice [that he left]</i> . A dummy subject <i>it</i> is put in the original position. See chapter 7, section 3.
finite clause	A clause with a finite verb (see below) and a nominative subject, see chapter 7.
finite verb	A verb expressing agreement and tense (past or present), see chapters 6 and 7.
flat structure	A tree that does not express hierarchies because many branches descend from one node, see chapter 3, section 1.1.
focusser	Words such as <i>even</i> and <i>just</i> that are used to emphasize a phrase, also called emphasizer, see chapter 9.
formal language	Language used in formal situations such as ceremonies, formal lectures, meeting a government official, see chapter 1.
fragment	An incomplete sentence, i.e. one missing a finite verb.
functional category	Not used in this book, alternative to grammatical category.
functions	Phrases (and clauses) have functions, such as Subject and Direct Object, at the level of the sentence. There are also functions inside the phrase, namely as determiner, modifier, and complement. See chapters 4 and 5 for functions at sentence level and chapters 9 and 10 for functions at phrase level.
genitive case	The case that a possessive has, e.g. <i>Catweazle's</i> in <i>Catweazle's book</i> , see special topics chapter 4.
gerund	A verbal noun that ends in <i>-ing</i> , briefly discussed in chapter 8 and special topics chapter 8.
gradeable	Not used in this book. Adjective that can be modified in terms of degree, e.g. <i>very happy</i> , <i>happier</i> .
grammar	The rules to form and understand language. In this book, we focus on how to analyze sentences, rather than full texts, words, or sounds. We also focus on descriptive, rather than prescriptive rules.
grammatical	A sentence (or word) that native speakers consider acceptable.
grammatical category	Word with little meaning, e.g. Determiner, Quantifier, Auxiliary, Coordinator and Complementizer, see chapter 2.

head	The most important part of a unit/phrase, e.g. the N <i>seadog</i> is the head of the NP <i>the blue seadog</i> .
hypercorrection	When speakers are so conscious that a prescriptive rule exists that they make a mistake.
<i>ing</i> -participle	See present participle.
imperative	A command such as <i>Go away, shut up!</i> , see chapter 6, section 3.
indicative	A 'normal' sentence, i.e. not asking a question, indicating a wish or command. Declarative is also used.
indirect object	Object that can be preceded by <i>to</i> or <i>for</i> , e.g. <i>Doris</i> in <i>Clovis gave Doris a flower</i> , see chapter 4, section 1.2.
infinitive	Form such as <i>to go, to be, to analyze</i> ; it is one of the non-finite constructions. See chapter 8.
informal language	Language used in informal situations such as casual conversation. In/formality depends on the situation, the participants, the topic. See chapter 1.
innate faculty	Enables us to acquire language, see chapter 1.
interrogative pronoun	Pronouns that start a <i>WH</i> -question such as <i>who left</i> , see chapter 11. They are in form similar to relative pronouns.
interrogative sentence	A question such as <i>who will go there</i> , see chapter 11.
intransitive	A verb without an object, e.g. <i>laugh, swim</i> , see chapter 4, section 2.
irregular verbs	The past tense and past participle of these verbs are not formed by adding <i>-ed</i> to the present, as in the case of regular verbs. Some examples of irregular verbs are: <i>go, went, gone; see, saw, seen; write, wrote, written</i> . See chapter 6.
lexical category	Word with lexical meaning, such as a Noun, Verb, Adjective, Adverb, and Preposition, see chapter 2, section 1.
lexical verb	Verb that can stand on its own, e.g. <i>see, walk</i> , see chapter 2, section 1.1, and chapter 6.
light verb	Verbs such as <i>make, do, take</i> with a very general meaning that combine with nouns, such as <i>take a walk</i> . They can be replaced by verbs, e.g. <i>walk</i> , chapter 4.
linguistic knowledge	Knowledge about linguistic notions and rules that we have in our heads, e.g. consonants and vowels, structure, question formation, see chapter 1.
linguistics	The study of language.
main clause	Independent clause, i.e. a sentence that can stand on its own, minimally containing a subject and a predicate and not embedded within another clause.
modal	Auxiliary such as <i>must, will, would, can, could</i> that expresses necessity, uncertainty, possibility, see chapter 6.

modifier	An element whose function is to modify another element, e.g. <i>purple</i> in <i>purple sage</i> , see chapter 9.
modify	Describe the quality of something.
monotransitive	See transitive.
morphology	Rules for how to build words, e.g. <i>formal</i> + <i>ize</i> , see chapter 1.
mother	In a tree, the node above another node, e.g. PP is the mother of P.
multiple negation	When two or more negative words ( <i>not</i> , <i>nobody</i> ) occur in the same clause, e.g. <i>I didn't eat nothing</i> , see special topic chapter 3.
N	= noun.
N'	= N-bar, intermediate category, see chapters 3 and 9.
negation/negative	E.g. <i>not</i> or <i>n't</i> , see chapters 2 and 6, or a negative word such as <i>nothing</i> .
node	a point in the tree, e.g. NP is a node, see chapter 3.
nominative case	The case of the subject, only visible on pronouns, e.g. <i>she</i> in <i>She left early</i> , see special topic chapter 4.
non-finite verb or clause	A verb that lacks tense and a nominative subject, e.g. <i>to be</i> or <i>not to be</i> , see chapter 6, section 3, and chapter 8.
non-linguistic (or social) knowledge	Knowledge of social rules, see chapter 1, section 3.
non-restrictive RC	A clause that provides background information to the noun it modifies; is often set apart from the rest of the sentence through commas or comma intonation, see chapter 10, section 2, also called appositive clause.
noun	A word such as <i>table</i> , <i>freedom</i> , <i>book</i> , <i>love</i> , see chapter 2; table 2.1.
noun complement	<i>Of chemistry</i> in <i>teacher of chemistry</i> , see chapter 10.
NP	= Noun Phrase, group of words centered around a noun, e.g. <i>the red balloon</i> , see chapter 3, section 1.1.
numeral	A word such as <i>one</i> , <i>two</i> . They can be seen as A or D, see chapter 2 and table 2.3.
objective or accusative case	In English, case is only visible on pronouns, e.g. <i>him</i> , in <i>Hermione saw him</i> . Objects typically get this case, hence the name objective. See special topics, chapter 4.
object predicate	Often realized as an AdjP, NP, or PP, making a claim about the object, e.g. <i>nice</i> in <i>I consider her nice</i> . It occurs together with a complex transitive verb such as <i>consider</i> , <i>elect</i> , see chapter 4, section 1.3.
OED	Oxford English Dictionary, see references.
P	= preposition.
participle	Either accompanied by an auxiliary, see chapter 6, or on its own heading a non-finite clause, see chapter 8.

particle	Similar in form to prepositions and adverbs, but only used together with a verb, see chapter 2, section 1.3, and chapter 5, sections 3 and 4, also discussion K.
passive auxiliary	A form of <i>to be</i> used together with a past participle. For instance, <i>was</i> in <i>She was arrested</i> , see chapter 6, section 1.4.
passive construction	A construction where what looks like an object is functioning as a subject, e.g. <i>she</i> in <i>She was arrested</i> .
past participle	Typically follows auxiliary <i>to have</i> to form a perfect, or <i>to be</i> to form a passive. It can function on its own in a non-finite clause. The participle ends in <i>-ed/-en</i> ( <i>walked, written, chosen</i> ) or may be irregular, such as <i>gone, swum, begun, learnt</i> .
perfect auxiliary	<i>To have</i> when used together with a past participle. For instance, <i>have</i> in <i>I have done that already</i> .
phonology	The structure of the sound system, see chapter 1.
phrasal verb	A verb that is always combined with a preposition-like element but which has a special meaning. For instance, <i>look up</i> does not mean 'see upwards', but 'go to the library and check on something', see chapter 5, section 3.
phrase	A group of related words, centered around a head, see chapter 3.
pied piping	Taking the preposition along in a relative clause or a question, as in <i>the man [to whom] I talked</i> , see chapter 10.
pleonastic subject	See dummy subject, see also chapter 4, section 1.1.
possessive	E.g. <i>his</i> or <i>Catweazle's</i> in <i>his book</i> or <i>Catweazle's book</i> , see chapter 2, section 2.1.
postmodifier	Modifier that follows the head, e.g. <i>from Venice</i> in <i>a stone from Venice</i> , see chapter 9.
PP	= Preposition Phrase: group of words belonging to the preposition, e.g. <i>in the garden</i> .
pre-D	= Pre-determiner, quantifiers such as <i>all, both, half</i> can occur before the determiner, e.g. in <i>all that trouble</i> , see chapter 2.
predicate	Says something about the subject, typically a VP, e.g. <i>saw him</i> in <i>Hermione saw him</i> .
predicative adjective	Term not used in this book; an adjective that heads an AP with the function of subject predicate or object predicate.
premodifier	Modifier that precedes the head, e.g. <i>blue</i> in <i>a blue hat</i> , see chapter 9.
preposing	Moving a word or phrase to a position towards the beginning of a sentence.
preposition	A word indicating location (in place and time), such as <i>at, in, on</i> , direction, such as <i>to, into, towards</i> , relationship, such as <i>with, between, among, of</i> , see chapter 2, section 1.3.
preposition stranding	Leaving the preposition behind in a relative clause or a question, as in <i>the man who I talked to</i> , see chapter 10.
prepositional verb	A verb that has a PP as a complement, e.g. <i>rely on, refer to</i> , see chapter 5, section 2.

prescriptivism	A rule typically learned in school, see chapter 1, e.g. don't split an infinitive or don't use multiple negation.
present participle	Forms that end in <i>-ing</i> , e.g. <i>walking</i> , used after a progressive auxiliary, as in <i>he is walking</i> , or on its own in a non-finite clause, as in <i>Walking along the street, I saw a fire</i> .
progressive	Indicating that the action is or was going on, see chapter 6.
pronominalization	Referring to an NP, PP, VP, AdjP, or AdvP by means of a pronoun.
pronoun	Words such as <i>he, she, it, me</i> that refer to an NP; pronouns replacing PPs ( <i>there</i> ), AdjPs ( <i>so</i> ), AdvPs ( <i>thus</i> ), or VPs ( <i>do so</i> ) are called either pronoun or pro-form.
pronoun resolution	Determining the proper antecedent for a pronoun. See special topic to chapter 9.
proper noun	A noun that used for names, e.g. <i>Bertha, Arizona</i> .
pseudo-cleft	A construction such as <i>What he did was stupid</i> , used to emphasize/focus a part, see chapter 11, section 3.
pun	The use of a word to suggest two meanings, see chapter 1.
quantifier	Words such as <i>all, some, many, each</i> ; they are either like determiners or adjectives, or occur before determiners.
question	See Yes/No Question and WH-Question.
RC	= relative clause, see below and chapter 10, sections 2 and 3.
regular verbs	Verbs formed by adding <i>-ed</i> to the present to form the past tense and the past participle, as in the case of regular verbs such as <i>walk, walked, walked</i> .
relative clause	A clause/sentence that typically modifies a noun, e.g. <i>the tree which I see from the window</i> , see chapter 10, section 2.
relative pronoun	pronoun such as <i>who, whose</i> that introduces relative clauses, chapter 10. The same set is used in questions and then they are called interrogative pronouns.
restrictive RC	A relative clause with highly relevant information, see table 10.1.
S	= sentence: a group of words that includes at least a verb/VP
S'	=S-bar, used in the first edition of this book, replaced by CP.
S-adverbial	An adverbial that modifies the entire sentence or expresses the feelings of the speaker, e.g. <i>unfortunately</i> , as opposed to a VP-adverbial. See chapter 5, section 1.
SC	= Small Clause, see below.
sentence/clause	A unit that contains at least a verb. The subject may or may not be expressed, see chapters 7, 8, and 10.
semantics	The linguistic aspects to meaning.
semi-modal	Auxiliary such as <i>dare (to), need (to), used to, ought to, have to</i> . They have properties of both main verbs and modal verbs, see chapter 6, section 2.1.

simple sentence/ clause	Sentence or clause with only one lexical verb, see chapter 7.
sister	For example, a P and NP are sisters of each other; each has a branch going up to the `mother', see chapter 3.
specify	Point to something, i.e. a determiner's function in a phrase.
split infinitive	Separating the <i>to</i> from the verb, e.g. as in <i>to boldly go ...</i> , see special topic chapter 1.
small clause	A sentence in which the verb has been left out, chapter 4, section 3.
strong verbs	Originally, a term for a verb that had a different vowel for the present, the past, and the past participle, e.g. <i>swim, swam, swum</i> . Now the term is often used for any kind of irregular verb, e.g. <i>be, was, been</i> .
subject	In English, the subject agrees with the verb in person and number, see chapter 4, section 1.1, and table 4.1.
subject predicate	Often realized as an AdjP, making a claim about the subject, e.g. <i>nice</i> in <i>She is nice</i> . It occurs after a copula verb such as <i>be, become</i> , see chapter 4, section 1.3.
subject verb agreement	Finite verbs agree with subjects in English. Evidence for it is fairly limited, e.g. the <i>-s</i> on <i>she walks</i> .
subjunctive	Expressing a wish or intention or necessity, e.g. <i>go</i> is a subjunctive verb in <i>it is important that he go there</i> . In Modern English, most of these are replaced by modal verbs, see chapter 6, section 1.1.
subordinate clause	Dependent clause, or clause embedded in another by means of a complementizer such as <i>that, because, if</i> , see chapters 7 and 8.
subordinating conjunction	Not used in this book, same as complementizer, see there.
superlative	An adjective such as <i>greatest</i> , see chapter 2.
synonym	A word with an almost identical meaning, e.g. <i>often</i> and <i>frequently</i> , chapter 2.
syntax	Rules for how words are combined into phrases and sentences, the topic of this book, see chapter 1.
tag-question	A repetition of the subject and the auxiliary, as in <i>She has been there before, hasn't she?</i> See chapter 4, section 1.1.
tense	Indicating past or present time.
trace	Used sometimes to indicate that a word or phrase has been moved. In this book, I have avoided it and used copies instead.
transitive or monotransitive	Verb with one object, e.g. <i>see</i> , see chapter 4, section 2.
tree	A representation of the units/phrases of a sentence by means of branches and nodes, see chapter 3.
two-part conjunction	Conjunction with two parts, e.g. <i>both Mary and John, neither Mary nor John</i> , chapter 2.
Universal Grammar	Grammatical properties shared by all languages, see chapter 1.

V= verb	
V'	= V-bar, an intermediate category, see chapter 5.
verb	A lexical category often expressing a state, act, event or emotion, see chapter 2.
VGP	= Verb Group, see chapter 6.
vowel	Sounds such as <i>i, e, a, o, u</i> , made by not blocking the airstream, see chapter 1, 1.1. for use in a rule.
VP-adverbial	An adverbial that modifies the action of the verb, e.g. <i>quickly, slowly</i> , as opposed to an S-adverbial, see chapter 5, section 1.
<i>wh</i> -question	A question that starts with <i>who, what, how, why, when</i> or <i>where</i> , see chapter 11.
word order	Linear sequencing of words and phrases.
<i>Yes/No</i> question	A question for which the appropriate answer would be 'yes', 'no', or 'maybe/perhaps', see chapter 11.
?	Questionable sentence.
*	Ungrammatical sentence.
^	May occur more than one.