

Lecture 6
Clause as Representation 1

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Transitivity



Transitivity: Characterization

- Belonging to the experiential metafunction
- As the overall grammatical resource for construing our experience of goings on
- Construing this flux of experience as quanta of change in the flow of events
- modelled as a configuration of a process, participants involved in it, and attendant circumstances
- construes out a small number of distinct process types, each with its own particular characteristics

- Participants+ Process+ Circumstances

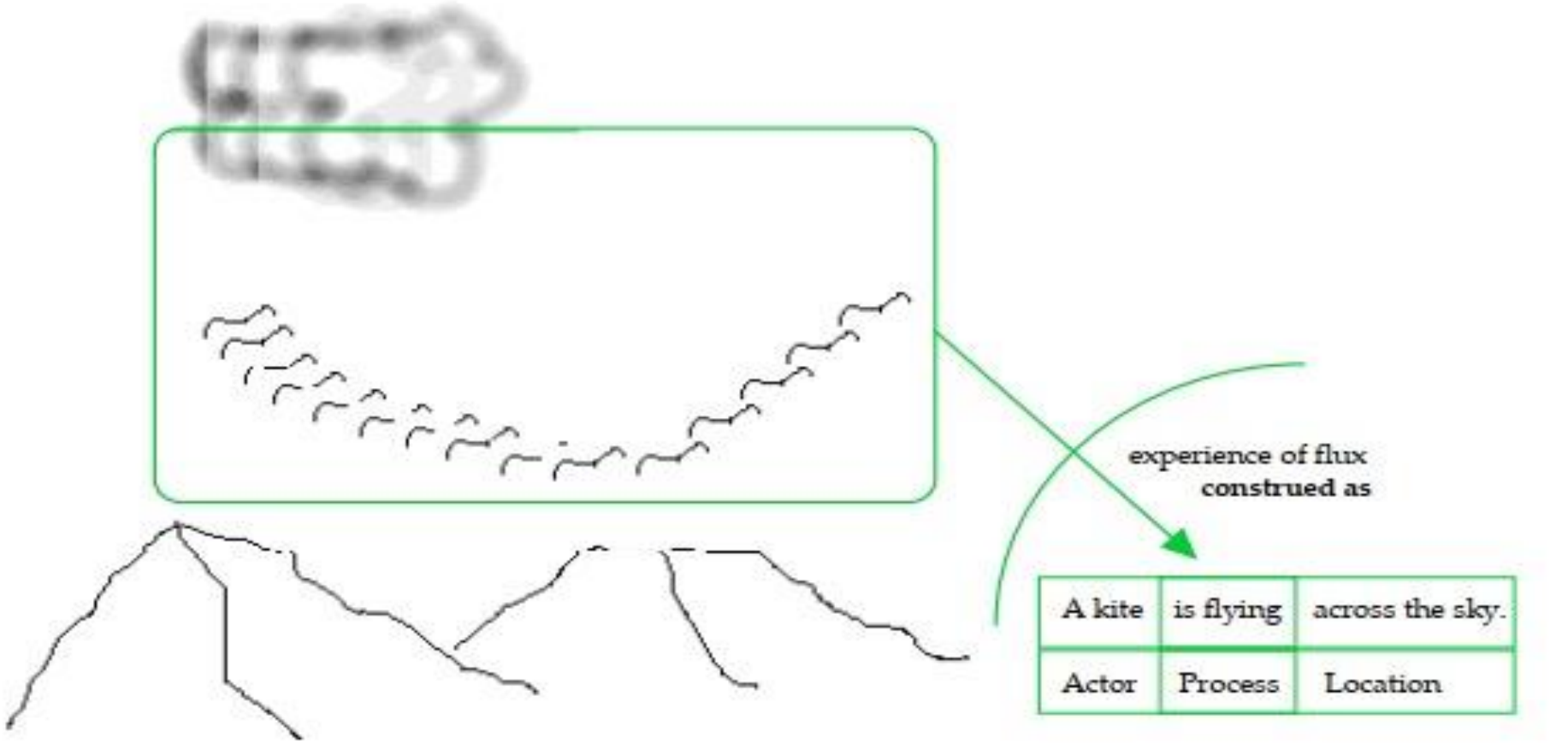


Figure 4.1 Construing experience



- Different ways of construing experience within or across languages
- In English
  - It’s winging across the sky (cf. it's raining),
  - It's winging a kite across the sky (cf. it's blowing a gale)
  - It's kiting across the sky.
  - Sky is winging a kite.
  - The sky's crossing a kite.
  - Something is flying across the sky like a kite.
  - a kite’s traversing the sky by flying

- Different choices across languages

Table 4.1 Semantic domains across different languages

DOMAIN	ENGLISH	AKAN	JAPANESE	CHINESE
DIRECTED MOTION	she swam across the river	she swam crossing the river	she crossed the river by swimming	
POSSESSION	she has a car	with her is a car	s/he (location) car be: exist	
PRECIPITATION	it's raining	water is falling	rain is falling	the sky's dropping water

- May people bought more and more TVs, VCRs, etc.
- May saw a sharp rise in consumer electronic purchases.



Process Types

- Two major systems of configuration:
- PROCESS TYPE (vs. CIRCUMSTANTIATION)
  - the resource for sorting out our experience of all kinds of events into a small number of types
  - differing with respect to both the Process itself and the participants involved in it – the number and kind of participants
  - Six process types in English:
  - Major: material, mental and relational
  - Minor: behavioural, verbal and existential

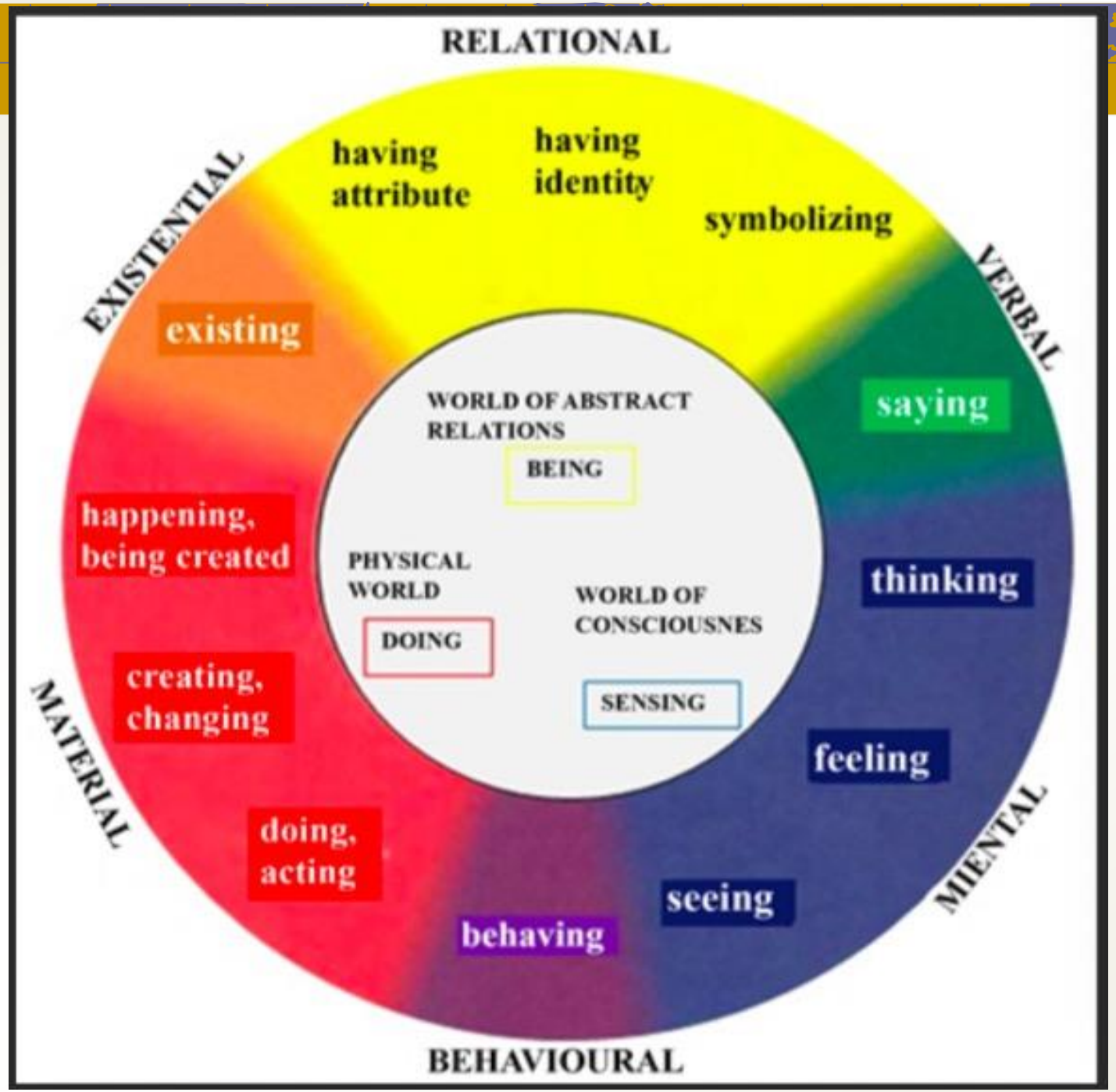

RELATIONAL
having attribute
having identity
symbolizing
VERBAL
saying
thinking
feeling
MIENTAL
seeing
behaving
BEHAVIOURAL
doing, acting
creating, changing
MATERIAL
happening, being created
EXISTENTIAL
existing
WORLD OF ABSTRACT RELATIONS
BEING
PHYSICAL WORLD
DOING
WORLD OF CONSCIOUSNES
SENSING

Table 4.2 Process types in English

Process type	**sub-category**	**Example clause** (processes in bold)
material	event (i.e. happening)	the sugar **dissolved**
	action (i.e. doing)	she **stirred** the coffee
mental	perception	she **saw** the car
	cognition	she **forgot** his name/his name **escaped** her
	affection	she **liked** his music/his music **pleased** her
relational	attributive	Maggie **was** strong
	identifying	Maggie **was** our leader
behavioural		she **laughed**
verbal		she **replied**
existential		there **was** once a beautiful princess

- Participant roles： IFG2: 166, Table 5 (18) and IFG3: 260, Table 5

Table 4.3 Process types and nuclear participants

Process type	**nuclear participants**	**Example** (nuclear participants in bold)	**additional non-nuclear participants**
material	Actor, Goal	**she** made **the coffee**	Initiator, Recipient, Client, Scope**, Attribute
mental	Senser, Phenomenon	**she** saw **the car**	Inducer
relational : attributive	Carrier, Attribute	**Maggie** was **strong**	Attributor, Beneficiary
: identifying	Token, Value	**Maggie** was **our leader**	Assigner
behavioural	Behaver (Target)*	**she** laughed	Behaviour, Scope**
verbal	Sayer, (Target)*	**she** replied	Receiver, Verbiage
existential	Existent	there was **a beautiful princess**	



CIRCUMSTANTIATION

- 'augmenting' the configuration of process + participants
- by means of elements that are less directly involved in the process, circumstances
- general across process types (precisely because they are less centrally involved in the process than participants)
- types of circumstances in English
- Cf. Section 5.7 of IFG2 and Section 6.6 of IFG3

Table 4.4 Types of circumstance in English

Circumstance type	typical probe	Example realisation	Circumstance subcategory	subcategory probe
Extent	how ___? at what intervals?	*for three hours* *every three hours*	duration frequency	for how long? how many times?
		for six miles	distance	how far?
Location	at what point?	*in September; before tea; recently; during the lesson*	time	when?
		in the yard; from Paris; miles away	place	where?
Manner	how?	*with a hammer; by trickery*	means	by what means?
		quickly	quality	how?
		as fast as possible; like a top	comparison	what like?
		to a great extent; deeply; considerably	degree	how much?

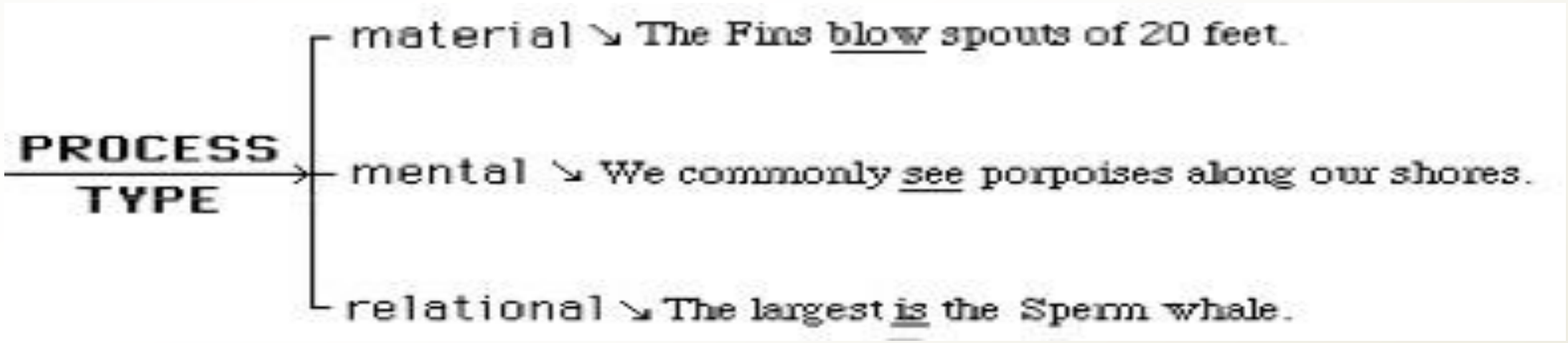
Circumstance type	typical probe	Example realisation	Circumstance subcategory	subcategory probe
Cause	why?	*because of you; thanks to him; for lack of $5*	reason	why?
		for better results; in the hope of a good deal	purpose	for what purpose?
		on behalf of us all	behalf	on whose behalf?
Contingency	in what circum-stances?	*in the event of rain; without more help (we can't do it)*	condition	under what conditions?
		in spite of the rain	concession	despite what?
		in the absence of proof	default	lacking what?
Accompaniment	together with?	*with(out) his friends*	comitative	who/what with?
		as well as them; instead of them	additive	and who/what else?

Circumstance type	typical probe	Example realisation	Circumstance subcategory	subcategory probe
Role		*as a concerned parent*	guise	what as?
		(smashed) into pieces	product	what into?
Matter	what about?	*about this; with reference to that*		
Angle	whose angle?	*according to the Shorter Oxford*	source	says who?
		in the view of the protestors	viewpoint	from whose perspective?



- Major process types : The grammar of English divides reality up into three main kinds of processes - 'doing', 'thinking' and 'being'.
  - Doing processes are referred to as **material** processes and are concerned with action.
  - Thinking processes are referred to as **mental** processes, and are concerned with consciousness - perception, cognition, reaction and intention.
  - Being processes are referred to as **relational** processes and are concerned with relationships of existence, possession, identity, classification and description.

- material processes: move, fall, rise, come, go, float, sail; build, construct, design, draw, bake, send, throw, bring, take, give, borrow...
- mental processes: see, observe, hear; think, feel, believe, guess, suppose, wonder, understand; appreciate, like, prefer, love, detest, regret, fear, grieve, depress...
- relational processes: be, seem, appear, sound, look, taste, go, turn, grow; have, lack, need; symbolise, represent, signify, equal, make...



- There **are** many species of whales. They are conveniently divided into toothed and baleen categories. The toothed whales are found world-wide in great numbers. The largest **is** the Sperm whale, which grows to about the size of a boxcar. Other species familiar to Canadians **are** the Beluga or white whale, the Narwhal with its unicorn-like tusk, the Killer whale or Orca, the Pilot or Pothead whale, which is commonly stranded on beaches, the Spotted and Spinner Dolphins that create a problem for tuna seiners, and the Porpoises which we commonly SEE along our shores.
- There **are** fewer species of the larger baleen whales, that filter krill and small fish through their baleen plates. The largest **is** the Blue whale which IS SEEN frequently in the Gulf of St Lawrence. It **reaches** a length of 100 feet and a weight of 200 tons, equivalent to about 30 African elephants. The young **are** 25 feet long at birth and put on about 200 lbs. a day on their milk diet. Other species **are**: the Fins which at a length of 75 ft. blow spouts of 20 ft., the fast swimming Seis, the Grays so commonly SEEN on migrations along our Pacific coast between Baja California and the Bering Sea, the Bowheads of Alaskan waters, the Rights, so seriously threatened, the Humpbacks ENJOYED by tourists in such places as Hawaii and Alaska, the smaller Bryde's whales, and the smallest Minke whales, which **continue to be** abundant worldwide.

As with the growing interest in birding, increasing numbers of whale watchers CAN DISTINGUISH the various species of whales.



Material Process



Material Process

- Material clauses construe doings and happenings (IFG2, IFG3 Section 5.2)
- Either concrete or abstract
  - she drove down the coast; she drove him down the coast.
  - Prices fell throughout this period
  - the wind destroyed the gazebo
  - their arguments destroyed her theory

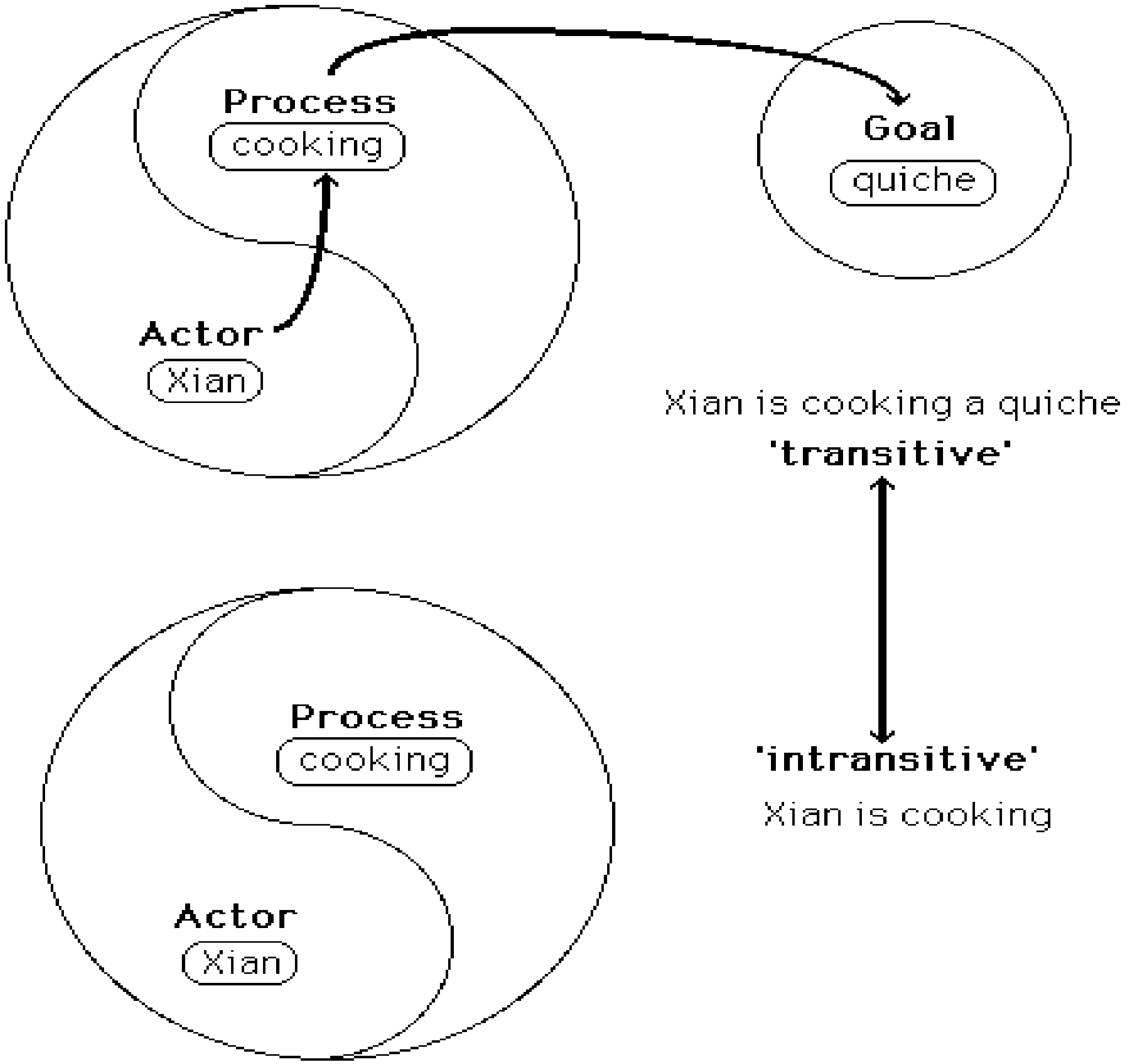
- Participant roles in material process

Table 4.5 Participant roles in material clauses

type	Actor	Process	Goal	Client/Recipient	Scope
action	she	built	the house	(for the kids): C	
	she	gave	the house	(to the kids): R	
	she	moved	the chair		
event	the chair	moved			
	she	climbed			the mountain



- Actor – the one doing the material deed
- Goal – a participant impacted by a doing (the one done to/with)
  - either actually brought into existence by the doing (build a house, bake a cake, write a letter),
  - or it exists prior to the doing, but is impacted in some way, can be probed with do to/with: eg. what did she do with the chair? or what she did with the chair was move it
  - can often be accompanied by a representation of the result of the impact
    - a new location: she moved the chair into the corner
    - a new possessor: she gave the chair to the duke


Process
cooking
Goal
quiche
Actor
Xian
Xian is cooking a quiche
'transitive'
'intransitive'
Xian is cooking
Process
cooking
Actor
Xian



- Scope – a participant specifying the scope of a happening
  - construing the scope or domain over which the process takes place
  - not impacted by the performance of the Process; vs. Goal
  - cannot be probed with do to/with
    - She climbed the mountain.
    - **what she did with [Scope:] the mountain was climb it
    - **she climbed [Scope:] the mountain into fame
    - She changed trains at London.
  - Range in IFG 3: now Range used in ergative model



- Client or Recipient
  - (Beneficiary in IFG2)
  - benefitting from the doing (the one given to or done for)
  - can be probed by looking at that version of a clause where it follows the Goal
  - realised with a preposition
    - to, marking it as a Recipient type of Beneficiary, when the clause construes a transfer in possession of existing goods
    - She gave his aunt a teapot : She gave a teapot to his aunt
    - for, marking it as a Client type of Beneficiary, while the Client is involved when the clause construes a provision of service (including creation of new goods)
    - She built his aunt a gazebo : She built a gazebo for his aunt

- Voice:

- active voice

Xian	is cooking	the quiche
Actor	Process	Goal

- passive voice

The quiche	is being cooked	by Xian
Goal	Process	Actor

-'agentless' passive

The quiche	is being cooked	-
Goal	Process	



- Subtype: happening **- Actor Process**
  - move, fall, rise, come, go...
  - soften, harden, melt, freeze...
  - open, close...
  - redden, blacken, whiten...
  - begin, start, commence...
  - appear, disappear...
  - develop, grow, shrink...
  - assemble, accumulate, collect...
  - disperse, scatter, spread...



- Subtype: Doing- **Actor Process Goal**
  - **creative** [making a Goal]
    - create, make, build, construct...
    - develop...
  - **dispositive** [affecting a Goal]
    - send, throw, bring...
    - gather, collect, accumulate...
    - melt, dissolve, freeze...
    - group, sort, systematise...
    - disperse, scatter, shed...
    - cover, wrap, shroud...

strew, spill, unfurl...
squash, crush, pulverise...
ruffle, rumple, disturb...
assemble, collect, group..
coat, paint, varnish...
uncover, dismantle, scalp...

dispositive material processes (Goal in motion):

give, hand, pass, throw, deliver, send, cable, offer, lend, loan, lease, rent, sell, advance, donate, leave, deny ('refuse to give')...

- with a Recipient next to Process

Xian	sent	Mack	a cable
Actor	Process	Recipient	Goal

- with the Goal next to the process (*to*)

Xian	sent	a cable	to Mack
Actor	Process	Goal	Recipient

- Goal passive

A cable	was sent	to Mack	by Xian
Goal	Process	Recipient	Actor

- Recipient passive

Mack	was sent	a cable	by Xian
Recipient	Process	Goal	Actor

creative material processes (Goal created):

buy, make, order, get, cook, bake, sew, build, draw...

- with a Client next to Process

Xian	baked	Mack	a quiche
Actor	Process	Client	Goal

- with the Goal next to the process (*for*)

Xian	baked	a quiche	for Mack
Actor	Process	Goal	Client

- Goal passive

A quiche	was baked	for Mack	by Xian
Goal	Process	Client	Actor

- Client passive

Mack	was baked	a quiche	by Xian
Client	Process	Goal	Actor



Mental Process



Mental Process

- Thinking processes are referred to as **mental** processes, and are concerned with consciousness - perception, cognition, reaction and intention.
- Mental clauses construe sensing – a person involved in conscious processing:
  - Perception ('seeing')
  - Cognition ('thinking')
  - Desideration ('wanting', intention),
  - Emotion ('feeling', reaction)

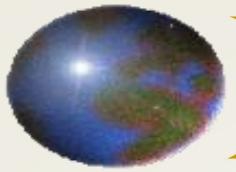


Mr. TAYLOR MALI (Four-Time National Poetry Slam Champion): In case you hadn't realized, it has somehow become uncool to sound like you know what you're talking about, or believe strongly in what you're, like, saying. Invisible question marks and parenthetical `you knows' and `you know what I'm sayings' have been attaching themselves to the ends of our sentences even when those sentences aren't, like, questions.

Declarative sentences, so called because they used to, like, you know, declare things to be true, OK, as opposed to other things that are, like, totally, you know, not. They've been infected by this tragically cool and totally hip interrogative tone, as if I'm saying, `Don't think I'm a nerd just because I've, like, noticed this, OK. I have nothing personally invested in my own opinions. I'm just, like, inviting you to join me on the bandwagon of my own uncertainty.'

What has happened to our conviction? Where are the limbs out on which we once walked? Have they been, like, chopped down with the rest of the rain forest, you know, or do we have, like, nothing to say? Has society just become so filled with these conflicting feelings of nyeh-nyeh-nyeh that we've just gotten to the point ...

- 'What's your interest?'she asked.'Oh,'I replied breezily, 'I **wondered** if it had anything to do with the National Bank robbery.' She didn't **think** it did. 'You got anything to tell us on that score?' she asked. I didn't. I cast my line again into the Chinatown killing. She said as usual no-one had **seen** anything. Even in reasonably broad daylight. I said I might have. She **found** that interesting. I asked her if the victim had been wearing a tie. She said no. I asked her if he'd been wearing kung fu shoes. She said what is this, twenty questions? I said no. I told her I'd **seen** a man acting suspiciously in the Chinese Gardens. She asked what I'd been doing there but I said it was irrelevant. I said I'd **seen** the same man later that afternoon in Cabramatta. She asked what I was doing in Cabramatta. I said it was irrelevant. I said it was a long shot and probably had nothing to do with anything but it might be worth asking a few discreet questions around the place. Check out the snooker hall. I asked her if she could tell me any more about the victim. She gave me a lot of bland stuff which would be appearing in the next press release.
- [Marele Day 1990:41-42 *The Case of the Chinese Boxes.* Sydney:Allen & Unwin]



Senser	Process	Phenomenon
I	wondered	if it had anything to do with the robbery
She	found	that interesting
She	didn't think	it did
She	fancied	the new car
She	disliked	him
no-one	had seen	anything
I	'd seen	the same man
I	's seen	a man acting suspiciously
Phenomenon	Process	Senser
He	sickened	her
The new car	tempted	her



- Participant roles
- Senser:
  - the participant sensing, i.e. involved in conscious processing
  - endowed with consciousness
    - Conscious participants
    - ‘personified’ non-conscious entities
      - The man knew too much.
      - The witness heard her threatening them.
      - She liked her job.
      - Her tasks interested her.
      - It surprised him to see her so happy.
      - My car doesn’t like hills.



- Phenomenon:
  - the phenomenon being sensed, including a wide range of units
  - any kind of entity (things) entertained or created by consciousness: a conscious being, an object, a substance, an institution, or an abstraction
  - Acts or facts; projected clause
    - The man knew too much.
    - The witness heard her threatening them.
    - She liked her job.
    - Her tasks interested her.
    - It surprised him to see her so happy.
    - My car doesn't like hills.

- David thought □ the moon was a balloon.
- She guessed □ he would be late.
- He wanted □ them to leave.
- He preferred □ them to stay.

SUBTYPES OF MENTAL PROCESSES

PERCEPTION

- perceived, see, notice, observe, hear, smell, taste, feel...
  - I'd **seen** a man acting suspiciously in the Chinese Gardens.
  - I'd **seen** the same man...
  - no-one had **seen** anything.

COGNITION

- assume, believe, conclude, consider, discover, doubt, dream, expect, forget, guess, imagine...wonder, doubt,
  - She didn't **think** it did.
  - She **found** that interesting.
  - 'I **wondered** if it had anything to do with the N... Bank robbery.'

- AFFECTIVE
  - REACTION (emotion)
    - enjoy, relish, resent, regret, deplore, mourn, fear, dread...; excite, interest, intrigue, startle, shock, sicken, trouble...
      - She really **disliked** him
      - He **sickened** her
  - DESIRE (intention)
    - like, fancy, dislike, prefer, love, hate, detest, abhor, loathe...; attract, tempt, allure, tantalise
      - She **fancied** the new car
      - The new car **tempted** her



- Criteria for mental processes
  - 1 Consciousness (sensing participant)
    - **I** wondered
    - **She** didn't think
    - **no-one** had seen
    - **She** found
    - **I**'d seen
    - **I**'d seen



- 2 Phenomena (sensed participants)
  - [metaphenomena]
    - wondered **if it had anything to do with the N..B.. robbery.**
    - think **it did**
  - [phenomena: macro-]
    - seen **a man acting suspiciously in the Chinese Gardens**
  - [phenomena: micro-]
    - seen **anything**
    - seen **the same man**



- 3 Tense (for mental processing at moment of speaking)
  - Simple present tense
    - I **wonder** if it has anything to do with the N... Bank robbery.'
    - She **thinks** it does.
    - no-one **sees** anything.
    - She **finds** that interesting.
    - I **see** a man acting suspiciously in the Chinese Gardens.
    - I **see** the same man now in front of me.



- 4 Bi-directional (relation of senser to sensed)
  - **I** fear **that man**
  - **That man** frightens **me**
  - like/please
  - fear/frighten
  - forget/escape
  - perceive/strike
  - don't mind/doesn't upset
  - grieve/sadden
  - believe/convince
  - recall/remind
  - don't understand/puzzle

- 5 Do to (what kind of processing)
  - What did Claudia **do**?
  - - She kicked the man.
  - What Claudia **did to** the man was kick him.
  -
  - What did Claudia **do**?
  - - *She liked the man.
  - *What Claudia **did** was like the man.

- 6 Combinations of participant
- Material process: 1\2\3
  - 1 [Actor Process]
    - **a man acting** suspiciously in the Chinese Gardens.
    - what **I'd been doing** there
    - what **I was doing** in Cabramatta.
    - **which would be appearing** in the next press release.
  - 2 [Actor Process Goal]
    - **I cast my line** again into the Chinatown killing.
    - if **the victim had been wearing a tie**.
    - if **he'd been wearing kung fu shoes**.
  - 3 [Actor Process Recipient Goal]
    - **She gave me a lot of bland stuff**



- Mental process
  - [always 2 participants]
    - 'I **wonder** if it has anything to do with the N... Bank robbery.'
    - She **thinks** it does.
    - no-one **sees** anything.
    - I **see** a man acting suspiciously in the Chinese Gardens.
    - I **see** the same man now in front of me.



Material vs Mental Processes

	material	mental
i. unmarked present	[present in present] He's playing.	[present] She thinks so.
ii. directionality	1 way She built it.	2 way He likes it/It pleases him.
iii. phenomenality	no ideas She ate it.	ideas He thinks he'll eat it.
iv. consciousness	un/conscious roles It/he struck the wall.	one conscious role It struck her that...
v. pro-verb	do to//with; happen What did she do with it?	No pro-verb What did you perceive/think/feel?
vi. # participants	1/2/3 He cooked Mary dinner.	2 She liked it.



Thank you!



