

(- SUBJ)= ⁻ , (- OBJ)= ⁻	In LFG, “I am the subject of the node that dominates me” or “I am the object of the node that dominates me.”
- = ⁻	In LFG “All the functional information I contain, my mother also contains.”
Accusative	The form of a noun in object position (<i>me, you, him, her, it, us, them</i>)
Acquisition	The gathering of subconscious information (like language).
Adjunct Clause	An embedded clause in an adjunct position.
Adjunct Rule	$X' \rightarrow X' (ZP)$ or $X' \rightarrow (ZP) X'$
Adjunct	Sister to X' , daughter of X' .
Affix Lowering	The lowering of inflectional suffixes to attach to their verb. The <i>predicate</i> defines the relation between the individuals being talked about and the real world – as well as with each other.
Agent	The doer of an action (under some definitions must be capable of volition).
Anaphor	A word that ends in <i>-self</i> or <i>-selves</i> (a better definition will be given in chapter 4).
Anaphor	An NP that obligatorily gets its meaning from another NP in the sentence.
Annotated C-structure	A c-structure annotated with the functional equations which map it to the f-structure.
Antecedent	An NP that gives its meaning to a pronoun or anaphor.
Antecedent	The noun an anaphor refers to.
Argument Structure	The number of arguments that a predicate takes.
arguments	are the entities who are participating in the relation.
Asterisk *	used to mark syntactically ill-formed (unacceptable or ungrammatical) sentences. The hash mark, pound, or number sign (#) is used to mark semantically strange, but syntactically well-formed, sentences.
A-structure	Argument structure. The LFG equivalent of the theta grid.
Asymmetric C-command	A asymmetrically c-commands B if A c-commands B but B does <i>not</i> c-command A.
Attribute Value Matrix (AVM)	In LFG, A matrix that has an attribute (or function) on the left and its value on the right. The set of all AVMs for a sentence form the sentence’s f-structure.
Bare Phrase Structure (BPS)	Not discussed beyond a mention in this textbook. This is a simplification of X-bar theory.
Benefactive	The entity for whose benefit the action is performed.
Binding Domain	The clause (for our purposes).
Binding Principles	<i>Principle A</i> An anaphor must be bound in its binding domain. <i>Principle B</i> A pronoun must be free in its binding domain. <i>Principle C</i> An R-expression must be free.
Binds	A binds B if and only if A c-commands B <i>and</i> A and B are coindexed.
Bounding Nodes:	NP and TP.
Branch	A line connecting two parts of a tree.
Burzio’s Generalization	The idea that if a verb does not assign an external argument (i.e., is passive or unaccusative), then it can’t assign accusative case.
Case Filter	All NP/DPs must be marked with Case.
Case	NP/DPs get a special morphological form depending on where they are in the sentence. Nominative is found on subjects (specifier of finite T). Accusative is found on objects (complement to V).
Case	The form a noun takes depending upon its position in the sentence. We discuss this more in chapter 9.
C-command (formal)	Node A c-commands node B if every branching node dominating A also dominates B <i>and</i> neither A nor B dominates the other.
C-command (informal)	A node c-commands its sisters and all the daughters (and granddaughters, and great-granddaughters, etc.) of its sisters.
Clausal Subject Construction	A sentence where a clause appears in the specifier of TP. E.g., <i>[That Jean danced the rumba] is likely.</i>
Clause	A subject and a predicate phrase.

Closed Class	Parts of speech that are closed class don't allow new coinages: D, P, Conj, C, etc.
Coherence	In LFG, All the governable grammatical functions in an f-structure must be governed by a local predicate.
Coindexed	Two NPs that have the same index (i, j, k, etc.) are said to be coindexed.
Complement Clause	An embedded clause in a complement position.
Complement Rule	$X' \rightarrow X$ (WP) or $X' \rightarrow (WP) X$
Complement	Sister to X, daughter of X'.
Complementizer Phrase (CP)	
Completeness	Replaces S' rule. Uses X-bar theory: [_{CP} [_C C TP]] In LFG, An f-structure must contain all the governable grammatical functions that its predicate governs.
Compositional	The idea that the semantics of the sentence can be read off of the constituency tree. This idea is shared by P&P and HPSG, but is rejected by LFG.
Constituency tests	Tests that show that a group of words function as a unit. There are four major constituency tests: movement, coordination, stand alone, and replacement.
Constituent of Constituent	A is a constituent of B if and only if B dominates A.
Constituent	A set of nodes exhaustively dominated by a single node.
Constituent	A group of words that functions together as a unit.
Construct Genitive/'s-Genitive	Possessor 's possessed
Control Theory	The theory that governs how PRO gets its meaning. There appear to be syntactic factors (the controller must c-command PRO), thematic factors (what NP does the controlling is dependent upon what main clause predicate is present), and pragmatic factors involved.
Corefer	Two NPs that are coindexed are said to corefer (refer to the same entity in the world).
Coreference Tags	In HPSG, Numbers written in boxes (e.g., 1) that show that two items are identical in a SYN-SEM structure or between SYN-SEM structures.
Corpus (pl. Corpora)	A collection of real-world language data.
Covert Movement	Movement between S-structure and LF (silent movement).
C-structure	Constituent structure. The tree in LFG. Roughly equivalent to S-structure in P&P.
Daughter	B is the daughter of A if B is immediately dominated by A.
Descriptive Grammar	A scientific grammar that describes, rather than prescribes, how people talk/write.
Descriptively Adequate Grammar	A grammar that accounts for observed real-world data and native speaker judgments.
Determiner Phrase (DP)	Replaces D in NP. Uses X-bar theory: D heads its own phrase: [_{DP} [_{D'} D NP]]
Direct Object	NP daughter of VP.
Ditransitive	A predicate that takes three arguments.
Do-insertion (Do-support)	When there is no other option for supporting inflectional affixes, insert the dummy verb <i>do</i> into T.
Dominance	Node A dominates node B if and only if A is higher up in the tree than B and if you can trace a branch from A to B going only downwards.
Do-so-replacement	Replace a V' with <i>do so</i> .
Doubly Filled CP Filter	(English only) * [_{CP} WH that/if/whether]
D-structure	The level of the derivation created by the base, and has had no transformations applied to it.
Economy Conditions	Not looked at extensively in this book. These are conditions that hold between derivations. If you have a pair of derivations where one has fewer movements, shorter movements, or later movements than the other, than the first is preferred. Shortest Move is the economy condition variant of the MLC.
Embedded Clause/Subordinate Clause	A clause inside of another.

Exhaustive Domination	Node A exhaustively dominates a <i>set</i> of nodes {B, C, ... , D}, provided it dominates all the members of the set (so that there is no member of the set that is not dominated by A) <i>and</i> there is no node G dominated by A that is not a member of the set.
Existential Quantifier (\$)	Words like <i>some</i> , or <i>a</i> .
Experiencer	The argument that perceives or experiences an event or state.
Explanatorily Adequate Grammar	A grammar that accounts for observed real-world data and native speaker intuitions and offers an explanation for the facts of language acquisition.
Expletive (or Pleonastic) Pronouns	A pronoun (usually <i>it</i> or <i>there</i>) without a theta role. Usually found in subject position.
Expletive Insertion	Insert an expletive pronoun into the specifier of TP.
Extended Projection Principle (EPP)	All clauses must have subjects, Lexical Information is syntactically represented.
External Theta Role	The theta role associated with subject NPs/DPs or CPs.
Extraposition	A sentence (often an alternate of a clausal subject construction) where there is an expletive in the subject position and a clausal complement. E.g., <i>It is likely that Jean danced the rumba.</i>
F-description	In LFG, the set of all functional equations. Defines the mapping between c-structure and f-structure.
Feature Satisfaction (sometimes loosely called Unification)	The idea that all the features in a SYN-SEM structure must match. The rough equivalent of feature checking in P&P/Minimalism.
Free Genitive/of-Genitive	Possessed of the possessor
Free	Not bound.
F-structure	In LFG, The level of representation where grammatical functions are unified.
Full Interpretation	Features must be checked in a local configuration.
Functional Categories	Categories like T, C, D, and P. These are the categories that hold the sentence together. (Not discussed extensively in this chapter.)
Functional Control	The LFG equivalent of control, indicated with a curved line linking two AVMs in a f-structure.
Functional Equation	An equation that maps one variable to another (e.g., $(f_1 \text{ SUBJ}) = f_2$ says that f_2 maps to f_1 's SUBJ function).
Gender (Grammatical)	Masculine vs. Feminine vs. Neuter. Does not have to be identical to the actual sex of the referent. For example, a dog might be female, but we can refer to it with the neuter pronoun <i>it</i> . Similarly, boats don't have a sex, but are grammatically feminine.
Generative Grammar	A theory of linguistics in which grammar is viewed as a cognitive faculty. Language is generated by a set of rules or procedures. The version of generative grammar we are looking at here is primarily the Principles and Parameters approach (P&P) touching occasionally on Minimalism .
Goal	The end point of a movement.
Golden Rule of Tree Structure.	Modifiers are always attached within the phrase they modify.
Grammar	Not what you learned in school. This is the set of rules that generate a language.
Grammatical Function	From LFG, Same thing as a grammatical relation.
Head Feature Principle	In HPSG, The HEAD value of any headed phrase is identical to the HEAD value of the head daughter.
Head Mobility	In LFG, The idea that lexical items can take different categories depending upon their features. E.g., a tensed verb in French is of category T, whereas an untensed one is a V. This derives head-to-head movement effects.
Head	The word that gives its category to the phrase.
Hierarchical Structure	Constituents in a sentence are embedded inside of other constituents.
Immediate Constituent of	A is an immediate constituent of B if and only if B immediately dominates A.
Immediate Precedence	A immediately precedes B if there is no node G that follows A but precedes B.
Immediately Dominate	Node A immediately dominates node B if there is no intervening node G that is dominated by A, but dominates B. (In other words, A is the first node that dominates B.)
Index	A subscript mark that indicates what an NP refers to.

Innate	Hardwired or built in, an instinct.
Instrument	A tool with which an action is performed.
Internal Theta Role	The theta role associated with objects or indirect objects.
Intransitive	A predicate that takes only one argument.
Island	A phrase that contains (dominates) the <i>wh</i> -phrase, and that you may not move out of.
Label	The name given to a node (e.g., N, NP, S, etc.).
Language (capital L)	The psychological ability of humans to produce and understand a particular language. Also called the Human Language Capacity . This is the object of study in this book.
language (lower-case l)	A language like English or French. These are the particular instances of the human Language. The data source we use to examine Language is language.
Learning	The gathering of conscious knowledge (like linguistics or chemistry).
Lexical Item	Another way of saying “word.” A lexical item is an entry in the mental dictionary.
Lexical Rule of Passives	Passives in LFG are entirely lexical. There is no syntactic movement:

$(\uparrow\text{PRED}) = \langle (\uparrow\text{SUBJ}), (\uparrow\text{OBJ}) \rangle$

+en



$(\uparrow\text{PRED}) = \langle \emptyset, (\uparrow\text{SUBJ}) \rangle$

Open function (XCOMP)	In LFG, A function with a missing argument (e.g., a non-finite clause).
Lexicon	The mental dictionary or list of words. Contains all irregular and memorized information about language, including the argument structure (theta grid) of predicates.
Local Configuration	[WH], [NOM] features: Specifier/Head configuration. [ACC] features: Head/Complement configuration. [PST] etc, [Q] features: Head-head configuration.
Locality Condition on Theta Role Assignment	Theta roles must be assigned within the same clause as the predicate that assigns them.
Locality Constraint	A constraint on the grammar, such that two syntactic entities must be “local” or near to one another.
Location	The place an action or state occurs.
Logical Form (LF)	The semantic/interpretive system.
Logical Problem of Language Acquisition	The proof that an infinite system like human language cannot be learned on the basis of observed data – an argument for UG.
Matrix, Matrix, or Main Clause	A clause that isn’t dominated by anything.
Merge	The name of the single phrase structure rule used in BPS. (Not discussed extensively in this chapter.)
Metavariable	In LFG, A variable over variables. \uparrow = my mother’s variable, \downarrow = my variable.
Morphology of Passives	The suffix <i>-en</i> : a) absorbs a verb’s external theta role b) absorbs a verb’s ability to assign accusative Case to its sister.
Mother	A is the mother of B if A immediately dominates B.
Move (very informal version)	Move something somewhere.
Movement Paradoxes	When the form or behavior of a moved item is not identical to the form or behavior of the item in its base position.
Native Speaker Judgments (intuitions)	Information about the subconscious knowledge of a language. This information is tapped by means of the grammaticality judgment task.
No Crossing Branches Constraint	If node X precedes another node Y then X and all nodes dominated by X must precede Y and all nodes dominated by Y.
Node	The end of a branch.
Nominative	The form of a noun in subject position (<i>I, you, he, she, it, we, they</i>)

Non-terminal Node (<i>revised</i>)	A node that dominates something. (A node that is a mother.)
NP/DP Movement	Move an NP/DP to a specifier position.
Null Subject Parameter	The parameter switch that distinguishes languages like English, which require an overt subject, from languages like Italian that don't, and allow <i>pro</i> .
Number	The quantity of individuals or things described by a noun. English distinguishes singular (e.g., <i>a cat</i>) from plural (e.g., <i>the cats</i>). Other languages have more or less complicated number systems.
Object Control	A sentence where there is a PRO in the embedded non-finite clause that is controlled by the object argument of the main clause. E.g., <i>John wants Bill_i PRO_i to leave</i> .
Object	NP daughter of VP.
Object of Preposition (<i>preliminary</i>)	NP daughter of PP.
Obligatory vs. Optional Control	Obligatory control is when the PRO must be controlled: <i>Jean_i is reluctant PRO_i to leave</i> . Optional control is when the NP can be controlled or not: <i>Robert_i knows that it is essential [PRO_{i/j} to be well behaved]</i> .
Observationally Adequate Grammar	A grammar that accounts for observed real-world data (like corpora).
One-replacement	Replace an N' node with <i>one</i> .
Open Class	Parts of speech that are open class can take new members or coinages: N, V, A.
Outrank	In HPSG, A phrase A outranks a phrase B just in the case where A's SYN-SEM structure precedes B's SYN-SEM structure on some ARG-ST list.
Overt Movement	Movement between D-structure and S-structure (heard/pronounced movement).
Parameterization	The idea that there is a fixed set of possibilities in terms of structure (such as the options in the X-bar framework), and people acquiring a language choose from among those possibilities.
Parts of Speech (a.k.a <i>word class, syntactic categories</i>)	
Passives	The labels we give to constituents (N, V, A, P, NP, VP, etc.). Assigned distributionally. A particular verb form where the external argument (often the agent or experiencer) is suppressed and the theme appears in subject position. The movement of the theme is also an instance of NP/DP movement.
Person	The perspective of the participants in the conversation. The speaker or speakers (<i>I, me, we, us</i>) are called first person. The listener(s) (<i>you</i>), are called the second person. Anyone else (those not involved in the conversation) (<i>he, him, she, her, it, they, them</i>), are called the third person.
Phonetic Form (PF)	The component of grammar where phonology occurs.
Pragmatics	The science that looks at how language and knowledge of the world interact.
Precedence	Node A precedes node B if and only if A is to the left of B and neither A dominates B nor B dominates A <i>and</i> every node dominating A either appears to the left of B or dominates B.
Predicate Phrase	A group of word that attributes a property to the subject. (In most sentences this is the VP, although not necessarily so.)
Prescriptive Grammar	The grammar rules as taught by so called "language experts." These rules, often inaccurate descriptively, prescribe how people should talk/write, rather than describe what they actually do.
PRO (big PRO) pro (Little pro or Baby pro)	A null (silent) NP found in Caseless positions (the specifier of non-finite TP).
PRO_{arb}	A null (silent) NP often found in languages with "rich" agreement. <i>pro</i> does get Case. Uncontrolled PRO takes an "arbitrary" reference. That is, it means something like <i>someone</i> .
Pronoun	An NP that may (but need not) get its meaning from another NP in the sentence.
Proposition	The thematic relation assigned to clauses.
Quantifier Raising (QR)	A covert transformational rule that moves quantifiers.
Raising	A specific instance of NP/DP movement. The NP/DP moves from the specifier of an embedded non-finite T to the specifier of a finite T in the main clause where it can get Case.
Recipient	A special kind of goal, found with verbs of possession (e.g., <i>give</i>).

Recursion	The ability to embed structures iteratively inside one another. Allows us to produce sentences we've never heard before.
Recursivity	The property of loops in the phrase structure rules that allow infinitely long sentences, and explain the creativity of language.
R-expression	An NP that gets its meaning by referring to an entity in the world.
Root Node (revised)	The node that dominates everything, but is dominated by nothing. (The node that is no node's daughter.)
Root \emptyset Complementizers (Null Complementizers)	We claimed that all clauses are introduced by a complementizer, even main clauses.
Root, Matrix, or Main Clause	A clause that isn't dominated by anything.
Scientific Method	Observe some data, make generalizations about that data, draw a hypothesis, test the hypothesis against more data.
Scope	A quantifier's scope is the range of material it c-commands.
Selectional Restrictions	Semantic restrictions on arguments.
Semantic Compositionality Principle	In HPSG, in any well-formed phrase structure, the mother's RESTR value is the sum of the RESTR values of the daughters.
Semantic Inheritance Principle	In HPSG, in any headed phrase, the mother's mode and index values are identical to those of the head daughter.
Semantic Judgment	A judgment about the meaning of a sentence, often relying on our knowledge of the real world.
Sisters	Two nodes that share the same mother.
Source	The starting point of a movement.
Specifier	Sister to X', daughter of XP.
Specifier Clause	An embedded clause in a specifier position.
Specifier Rule	$XP \rightarrow (YP) X'$ or $XP \rightarrow X' (YP)$
S-structure	The output of transformations. What you say.
Strong and Weak Features	Another way of encoding overt/covert parameters. Features are marked as strong if they need to be checked overtly, and weak if they are checked covertly. This information is stored in the lexical entries of the words bearing the features.
Subcategorizational Restrictions	Restrictions on the syntactic category of an argument.
Subjacency Condition (or Subjacency Constraint)	<i>Wh</i> -movement may not cross more than one bounding node (but it may cross one).
Subject	A noun which has the property indicated by the predicate phrase. What the sentence is about. In most sentences, this is found in the specifier of TP.
Subject (preliminary)	NP daughter of S.
Subject Control (also called <i>Equi</i>)	A sentence where there is a PRO in the embedded non-finite clause that is controlled by the subject argument of the main clause. E.g., <i>John_i is reluctant PRO_i to leave.</i>
Subject/Aux Inversion	A means of indicating a <i>yes/no</i> question. Involves movement of T to $\emptyset_{[+Q]}$ complementizer for morphophonological reasons.
Subject-to-object Raising (also called <i>Exceptional Case Marking</i> or <i>ECM</i>)	A kind of NP movement where the subject of an embedded non-finite clause moves to the complement of the verb in the main clause to get accusative Case. E.g., <i>Jean wants Bill_i[_{t_i} to dance].</i>
Subject-to-subject Raising	A kind of NP movement where the subject of an embedded non-finite clause moves to the specifier of TP of the main clause to get nominative Case. E.g., <i>Jean_i is likely _{t_i} to dance.</i>
Subordinate Clause	A clause inside of another.
Symmetric C-command	A symmetrically c-commands B if A c-commands B and B c-commands A.
SYN-SEM Structure	In HPSG, The set of AVMS for a node, containing all the SYN, SEM and ARG-ST features.
Syntactic Judgment	A judgment about the form or structure of a sentence.

Syntactic Trees and Bracketed Diagrams

	These are means of representing constituency. These are generated by rules.
Syntax	The level of linguistic organization that mediates between sounds and meaning, where words are organized into phrases and sentences.
T → C Raising	Move T to C, when there is a phonologically empty $\emptyset_{[+Q]}$ complementizer.
T	The category that contains both inflectional suffixes and auxiliaries.
Tense Phrase (TP)	Replaces S rule. Uses X-bar theory: [TP NP _{subject} [T T VP]]
Tensed or Finite Clause	A clause that is tensed.
Tenseless or Non-finite Clause	A clause that isn't tensed (e.g., I want [Mary to leave]).
Terminal Node (revised)	A node that dominates nothing. (A node that is not a mother.)
That-trace Filter (English only)	* That trace _{wh}
The Computational Component	The combinatorial, rule based, part of the mind. Where the rules and filters are found.
The Minimal Link Condition (MLC)	Movement must target the closest potential position.
The Projection Principle	Lexical information (like theta roles) is syntactically represented at all levels.
The Theta Criterion	a) Each argument is assigned one and only one theta role. b) Each theta role is assigned to one and only one argument.
Thematic Relations	Semantic relations between a predicate and an argument – used as a means of encoding subcategorizational and selectional restrictions.
Theme	The element undergoing the action or change of state.
Theta Grid	The schematic representation of the argument structure of a predicate, where the theta roles are listed.
Theta Role	A bundle of thematic relations associated with a particular argument (NPs/DPs or CPs).
Transformation	A rule that takes an X-bar generated structure and changes it in restricted ways.
Transitive	A predicate that takes two arguments.
Unaccusatives	Inherently passive verbs like <i>arrive</i> .
Underdetermination of the Data	The idea that we know things about our language that we could not have possibly learned – an argument for UG.
Unification	In LFG, All the features and functions associated with the f-structure must be compatible. (Similar to feature checking in Minimalism.)
Uniqueness	In a given f-structure, a particular attribute may have at most one value.
Universal Grammar (UG)	The innate (or instinctual) part of each language's grammar.
Universal Quantifier ("")	Words such as <i>every, each, all, any</i> .
Universal	A property found in all the languages of the world.
V → T raising	Move the head V to the head T (motivated by morphology).
Valence Principle	In HPSG, Unless the rule says otherwise, the mother's SPR and COMPS values are identical to those of the head daughter.
Variables	LFG uses variables (f_1, f_2, f_3, \dots , etc.) for each node on the c-structure which are used in the mapping between c-structure and f-structure.
Verb Raising Parameter	Verbs raise to T or T lowers to V.
Verb raising Parameter:	Overt/Covert
VP-internal Subject Hypothesis	The idea that all subjects (at least agents) start out in the specifier of VP, then move (in languages like English) to the specifier of TP.
Wh-in-situ	When a <i>wh</i> -phrase stays in its case position. E.g., <i>what</i> in <i>Who loves what?</i>
Wh-movement	Move a <i>wh</i> -phrase to the specifier of CP to check a <i>wh</i> -feature in C.
Wh-Parameter:	Overt/Covert
Wide vs. Narrow Scope	Wide scope is when one particular quantifier c-commands another quantifier. Narrow scope is the opposite.
Yes/No Questions	A question that can be answered with either a <i>yes</i> or a <i>no</i> .