

# Practice with X-bar theory

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## 1 Current grammar of English

### Headed phrases

$CP \rightarrow C'$

$C' \rightarrow C MP$

$MP \rightarrow NP M'$

$M' \rightarrow M VP$

$VP \rightarrow V'$

$V' \rightarrow V (NP) (AP) (PP) (VP) (CP)$

$NP \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (DP) N' \\ \text{Pronoun} \\ \text{Name} \end{array} \right\}$

$N' \rightarrow N (PP) (CP)$

$DP \rightarrow (NP) D'$

$D' \rightarrow D$

$AP \rightarrow (\text{Int}) A'$

$A' \rightarrow A (PP) (CP)$

$PP \rightarrow (\text{Dir}) P'$

$P' \rightarrow P (NP) (PP)$

### Adjunction rules

$VP \rightarrow VP PP$

$NP \rightarrow NP PP$

$N' \rightarrow AP N'$

### Coordination rule(s)

$X \rightarrow X \text{ CONJ } X$

### Lexicon

that, C, [ ---  $MP_{+fin}$  ]

if, C, [ ---  $MP_{+fin}$  ]

for, C, [ ---  $MP_{-fin}$  ]

will,  $M_{+fin}$ , [ ---  $VP_{bare}$  ]

could,  $M_{+fin}$ , [ ---  $VP_{bare}$  ]

PRES,  $M_{+fin}$ , [ ---  $VP_{pres}$  ]

to,  $M_{-fin}$ , [ ---  $VP_{bare}$  ]

have<sub>1</sub>,  $V_{aux}$ , [ --- {  $VP_{EN:be_1}$  or  $V_{main}$  } ]

believe, V, [ ---  $CP_{that}$  ]

doubt, V, [ ---  $CP_{that}$  ]

wonder, V, [ ---  $CP_{if/whether}$  ]

plan, V, [ ---  $CP_{for}$  ]

realize, V, [ --- {  $NP$ ,  $CP_{that}$  } ]

## 1.1 Some other lexical entries

Fill in:

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| (1) give, _____ , [ _____ ]             | (11) long, V, [ _____ ]             |
| (2) fond, _____ , [ _____ ]             | (12) obvious, _____ , [ _____ ]     |
| (3) depend, _____ , [ _____ ]           | (13) destruction, _____ , [ _____ ] |
| (4) discover, _____ , [ _____ ]         | (14) arrange, _____ , [ _____ ]     |
| (5) trust, _____ , [ _____ ]            | (15) campaign, _____ , [ _____ ]    |
| (6) whether, _____ , [ _____ ]          | (16) certain, A , [ _____ ]         |
| (7) might, _____ , [ _____ ]            | (17) ascertain, _____ , [ _____ ]   |
| (8) PAST, _____ , [ _____ ]             | (18) wish, _____ , [ _____ ]        |
| (9) be <sub>1</sub> , _____ , [ _____ ] | (19) force, _____ , [ _____ ]       |
| (10) know, _____ , [ _____ ]            | (20) request, _____ , [ _____ ]     |

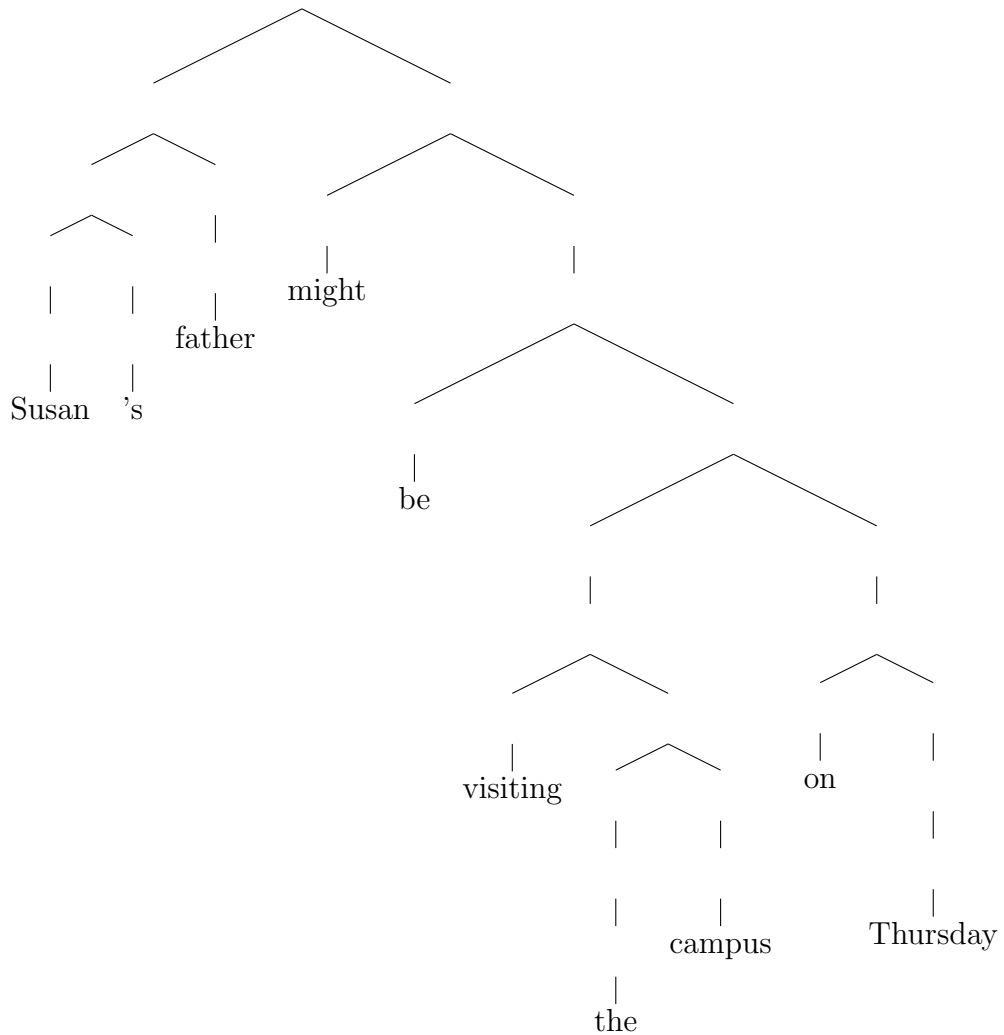
**Come up with example sentences using items (11), (15), (18), and (20):**

## 2 X-bar tree practice

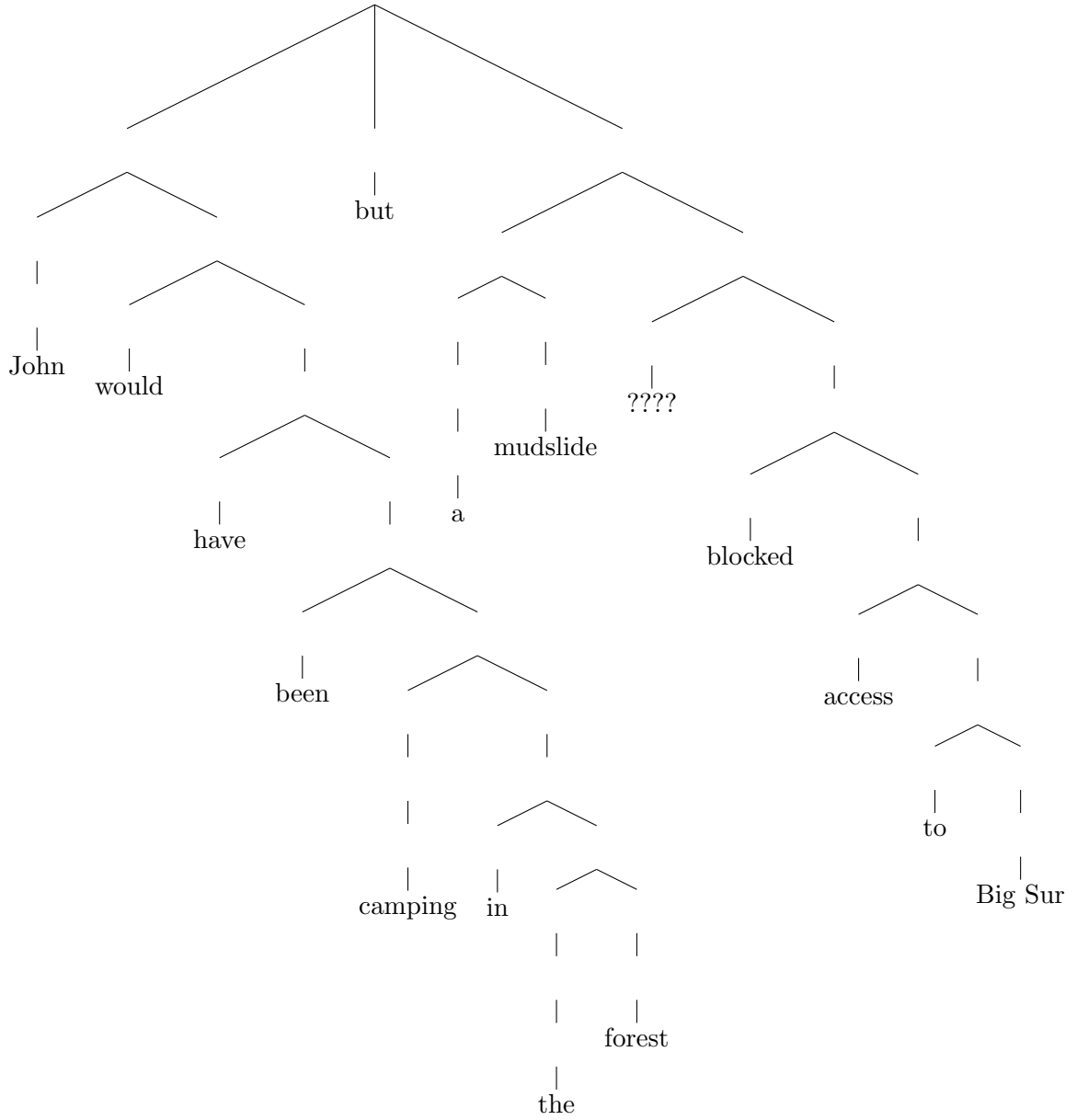
### 2.1 Modals and auxiliaries

In the first two, the trees are drawn for you. Fill in the missing node labels.

- (1) Susan's father might be visiting the campus on Thursday.



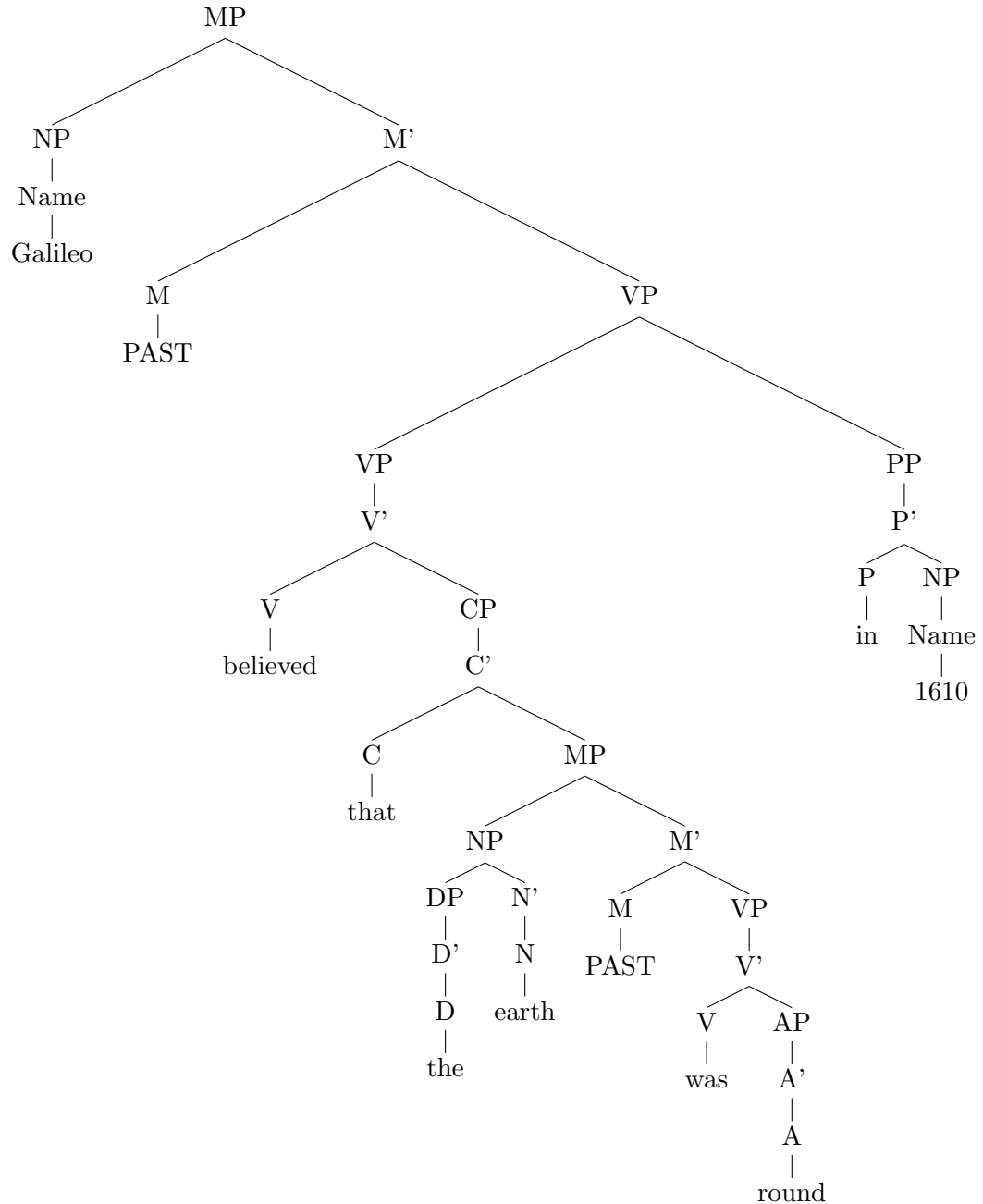
- (2) John would have been camping in the forest but a mudslide blocked access to Big Sur.



## 2.2 Complementizers and CPs

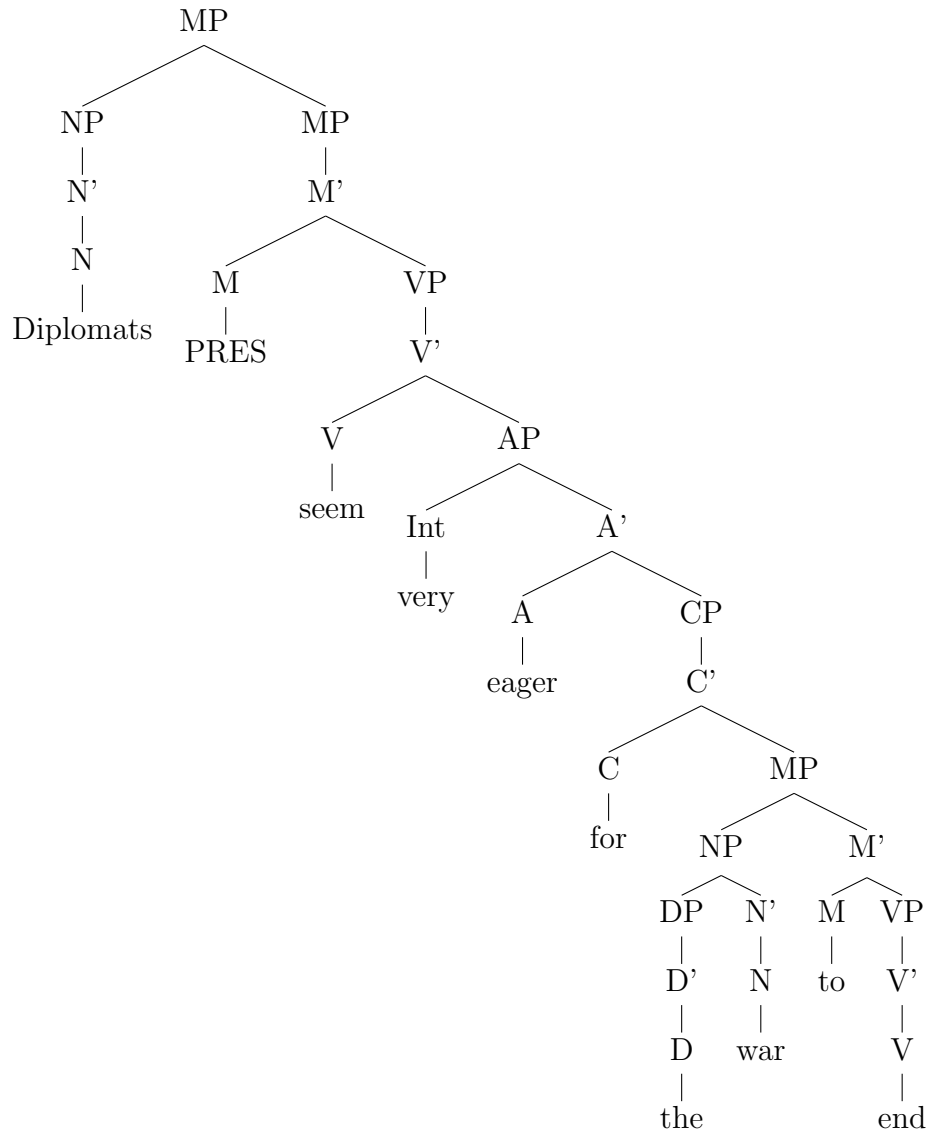
Draw trees for the grammatically acceptable sentences. Explain, using subcategorization frames, the contrast between these and the unacceptable sentences.

- (3) a. Galileo believed that the earth was round in 1610.



- b. \*The governor campaigned that California should secede from the union.

- (4) a. Harvey wonders whether the Golden State Warriors will win their next game.  
 b. \*Galileo wonders that the earth is round.
- (5) a. Galileo's contemporaries were certain that the earth is flat.  
 b. \*Jerry Brown is crazy that he thinks California will secede.
- (6) a. The hope that the war would end may die.  
 b. \*The expression that the war would end was forbidden.
- (7) a. Diplomats seem very eager for the war to end.



- b. She talked about her plan for her daughter to have dancing lessons.

c. The civilians longed for the war to come to an end.