

WIDYĀSRAMA

MAJALAH ILMIAH UNIVERSITAS DWIJENDRA



9

Periode : November 2005
ISSN : 0852 - 7768



**SUSUNAN STAFF REDAKSI
MAJALAH ILMIAH
"WIDYASRAMA"
UNIVERSITAS DWIJENDRA
DENPASAR**

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Cover Depan :

Logo Univ. Dwiwajendra Denpasar

Cover Belakang :

Aneka Kegiatan Orientasi Mahasiswa Baru

Univ. Dwiwajendra Tahun Akademik 2005 / 2006

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OPTIONAL CONSTITUENT

By : I Ketut Suaradnya *)

ABSTRAK

Kalimat atau klausa dapat dianalisis menjadi elemen . Ini menunjukkan bahwa bagaimana kata dapat dikombinasikan dengan yang lain untuk membentuk satuan yang lebih besar. Kata merupakan unit terkecil dari kalimat . Penggabungan kata dengan kata yang lain akan membentuk frasa atau klausa. Pada kalimat *The old man caught a mouse in the garden*, kalimat ini terdiri dari beberapa unit yang lebih kecil yaitu : *the old man*, *caught*, *a mouse* , and *in the garden*. Frasa *the old man* , yang menjadi inti dari frase ini adalah *man*. Hadirnya *the* dan *old* adalah sebagai *modifier* (unsur perluasan dari *man*) .

Oleh karena itu, kehadiran *modifier* ini sebagai unsur yang bersifat manasuka (optional) atau bisa tidak hadir dalam konsituen itu . Kata *man* merupakan unsure yang eajib hadir dalam konstituen itu.

I. INTRODUCTION

Sentence or clause can be broken into its constituent parts. This description will inform how word can be combined to form larger constituent, and how these, in their turn can form larger constituent until to be construction a sentence. Word is considered as smallest unit of sentence construction. Combination of words would form a larger constituent called phrase and combination of phrases would form a clause. For example the sentence: **The old man caught a mouse in the garden**, this sentence consist of smallest constituent i.e. *the old man*, *caught*, *a mouse*, and *in the garden*. This string appears to be relevant constituent but the string *caught*, *the old man*, *a mouse*, and *in the garden* don not. In considering the relationship between the constituents of the sentence, it is better to view from internal structure of constituent. Consider the strings **the old man**. In these constituents the article **the** and **old man** occur. These cannot occur with word like **caught**. Presence of both **the** and **old** in this constituent have function as modifier of the head "*man*" (premodification). These modifiers are optional. It means that

omission of these modifiers still inform meaning word. On the contrary, if the word " *man*" is deleted would remain the string like : **the old** . There is no meaning with thisstring. Now consider the distribution of constituents within the sentence above can be formed like:

In the garden the old man caught a mouse.

The old man caught a mouse.

This strings retain their unity . The presence of three constituents (*the old man*, *caught*, *a mouse*) are obligatory .

Obligatory constituent is considered as immediately constituent that is required by the verb (*the old man*, *a mouse*). Absence of one of these constituents makes the sentence is not acceptable. Absence of constituent : *in the garden* doesn't influence the unity of the sentence . This constituent is called optional constituent.

To get comprehending concerning this matter , in this paper would be discussed optional constituent in the level of clause and phrase .

1.1. Theoretical Framework

All languages are organized on two levels: the level of expression- to put it crudely, the level of noises in which the

message is encoded and the level of content, this encompasses both the organization of words in to sentences and the meaning that associated with these words and sentences (Brown and Miller , 1991:2)

Word is considered to be a core element within sentence because verb assigns presence of other arguments to develop grammatical sentence. Quirk argued that there are different types of verb corresponding closely to the different type of object and complement.(1982:14). Further more he divided verb into three categories i.e transitive verb, intransitive verb and copula verb.

1.2. Classification of Verb

Verb can be categorized into three categories such as transitive verb, intransitive verb and copula verb.

1. Transitive Verb

Transitive verb is a verb that can take direct object. For example, in the sentence : **We will set up a new unit** . A *new unit* is assigned as direct object . We cannot allowed to form a sentence like : We will set up. This sentence is not complete because inform nothing . There is information omitted in this sentence. To check this sentence grammatically, can be performed a question like : What will be set up ? The answer of this question would not be found. It signs that this sentence is not complete yet. So that, this verb can be categorized into transitive verb.

2. Intransitive Verb

There are some verbs that are always intransitive, ie can never take an object. Like the sentence bellow :

Your friend have *arrived*.

Other verb can be either intransitive or transitive:

He *smokes* every day. (intransitive)

He *smokes cigars* every day.
(transitive)

3. Copula Verb

The most common copula is *be* and other copulas fall into two main classes , according to whether the role of the subject complement is that current attribute or attribute resulting from the event described in the verb.

Current copulas : seem , appear, feel, look, remain, , smell, sound, and and taste.

Resulting copulas : become, get, go, grow, turn, make.

1.2. Obligatory Constituent

It is already discussed above concerning obligatory and optional constituent . Presence of these constituents depend on their feature whether they, in the clause level, immediately required or not by verb but in the phrase level ,obligatory constituent is the head of the phrase. The constituent that takes place as obligatory constituent in the clause level is the constituent which has function as subject , object (direct and indirect object) and complement and then the constituent that is considered as optional constituent is the constituent which has function as adverbial in the clause.

According to Quirk and Green Baum there are seven types of clause namely : (1982 :167):

- (a) SVA Mary is in the room.
- (b) SVC Mary is kind
- (c) SVO Some body caught the ball.
- (d) SVOA I put the plate on the table.
- (e) SVOC We have prove him wrong.
- (f) SVOO She gives me expensive present.
- (g) SV The child laughed.

If we notice all the types of the clauses above , only the type in the fourth (SVOA) that has optional constituent . The omission of adverbial (on the table) in that sentence still yield a grammatical sentence and retains its unity. For the others, it is

impossible to omit one of their constituents because these constituents are considered as obligatory constituent. For example in the third type : **Some body caught the ball** . This clause has obligatory constituent, the omission one of these constituents is not allowed.

The obligatory constituent is the constituent that is immediately required by the verb. Syntactically, this constituent has function as subject, object and complement .

1.3. Optional Constituent

In the level of phrase , optional constituent has function as modifier of the head .Typically when we talk of a phrase , we tend to think of more than one word. However , in reality, a phrase sometimes only has a head, with no pre modifiers or post modifiers. (Deterd, 2001). For instance, **David** , in the sentence **I like David both a noun and a noun phrase but three films in the : I saw three films yesterday**, is a noun phrase with **films** as its head.

However, in the level of sentence, adverbial is considered as optional constituent within the clause because absence of it within the clause still yields an acceptable clause. According to Quirk there are (3) three categories of adverbials id est ; adjuncts, disjuncts , and conjuncts.(1982)

1. Adjunct

Adjunct can be divided into their subclasses:

a. **Viewpoint** : view point adjunct are most commonly derived from adjectives by the addition of a - ly suffix such as : geographically, ethnically, linguistically, etc. All - ly viewpoint adjunct have a corresponding participle clause with *speaking* ,eg: *visually* → *visually speaking*, and a corresponding prepositional phrase with the frame *from a [arjective phrase] point of view*, eg: *morally*→ *from moral point of view*.

b. **Focusing** : focusing adjunct indicate that what is being communicated is limited to a part that is focused

(Quirk,1982:211). This adjunct can be classified into two sub classes namely : **additives** (also, either, neither, nor, too, as well as, in addition), and **limiter** (alone, just , merely, only, purely, simply, chiefly, especially, mainly, mostly, in particular).

c. **Intensifier** : Intensifier can be divided into three semantic classes : (a) **emphasizers** (definitely, clearly, actually, certainly, indeed, obviously, plainly, really, surely, for certain, for sure, of course), (b) **amplifier** (completely, very much, absolutely, altogether , entirely, fully, quite, thoroughly, utterly, in all respect, most, badly, deeply, greatly, heartily, much, so, violently) and (c), **downtoners** (kind of, partly, hardly, almost, slightly, barely, hardly, little, scarcely, at all almost, nearly, as good as).

d. **Process adjunct** : process adjunct define in some way the process denoted by the verb. They can be divided into at least three semantic subclasses : **Manner** : the main method of forming manner adverbs is by adding a - ly suffix to an adjective(indiscriminately, carelessly), and also can be formed by : *in a/an manner* or *in a/an.....way* with its adjective base in the vacant position (in a careless manner/way) . **Means** (surgically, by car,) **Instrument** (microscopically, with that knife).

e. **Subject adjunct**: subject adjunct relate to the referent of the subject in an active clause (or the agent in a passive clause) as well as to the process or state denoted by the verb.This adjunct can be distinguished into three groups : **general**(resentfully, with great unease) **vollitional** (deliberately, (un) intentionally, purposely, reluctantly, voluntarily, willfully). **formulatic**, they are a small group of adverbs used as markers of courtesy(like : kindly, cordially, graciously, humbly, please) .

Place adjunct, place adjunct denote static position and also direction, movement, and passage, here brought together under the general term 'direction'. (Quirk; 1982:224).

Place adjunct can be classified into : **Position adjunct and direction adjunct**. Position adjunct can normally be evoked as response to a where question.

For example : Where is staying ? In the hotel.

A few adverbs denote direction only: aside, backward(s), downward(s), forward(s), inward(s), left, outward(s), right, sideways, upward(s). Adverbs commonly used for both position and direction : above, along, any where, around, away, back, below, by, down, elsewhere, everywhere, far, here, near, opposite, out, over, there, under, up, within, somewhere, through.

- f. **Time adjunct**, this, adverb can be divided into four main semantic classes: **when** (eg : today, afterward) , **duration** (eg: briefly, since), **frequency** (daily, twice, usually, always, often, never and occasionally,) **other relationships** (eg : already) .

2. Disjunct

Disjuncts can be divided into two main classes : **style disjunct**, convey the speaker's comment on the form of what is saying, defining in some way under what conditions he's speaking e.g : personally seriously, speaking, briefly, confidentially, frankly, generally, honestly. **Attitudinal disjunct**, on the other hand comment on the content of the communication e.g : obviously, understandably, wisely.

3. Conjunct

Conjunct can be divided into 13 classes :
 Enumerative : first, second, Firstly, secondly, next, then, finally, last and lastly.

- reinforcing : also, furthermore, moreover, then (informal), in addition, above all, what is more.
- equative : equally, likewise, similarly and in the same way.
- transitional : by the way, incidentally.
- summative : then, (all) in all, in conclusion, to sum up.
- apposition : namely, in order words, for example, for instance, that is.
- result : consequently, hence, so, therefore, thus, as result,
- inferential : else, otherwise, then, in other words, in that case.
- reformulatory: better, rather, in other words.
- replacive : alternatively, rather, on the other hand.
- antithetic : Instead, on the contrary, in contrast, by comparison, on the other hand
- Concessive : anyhow (informal), anyway (informal), besides, else, however, nevertheless, still, though, yet, in any case, at any rate, after all, on the other hand, all the same.
- temporal transition : meantime, meanwhile, in the mean time.

III. DATA ANALYSIS

The data shown below that are the data that have relation with optional constituent in the phrase and sentence. As discussed in (2.2) that optional constituent only filled by the constituent that has function as adverbial. The next discussion will be tried to analysis these data . In analyzing it firstly, will be tried to prove that each adverbial in the sentence is optional by omitting it from sentence and then the whole sentence will be analyzed by using three diagram.

3.1. Optional Constituent in The Phrase Level

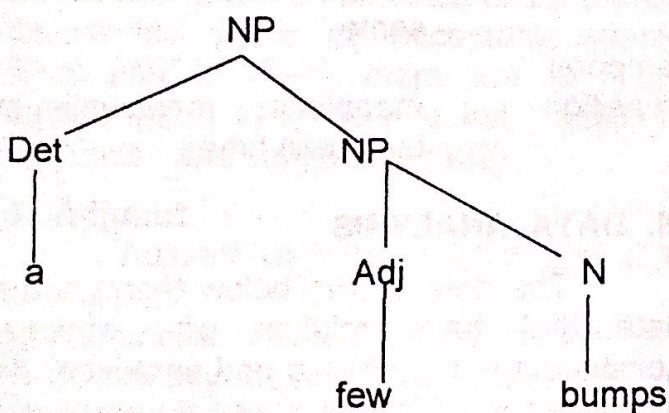
In analyzing , optional constituent in the phrase level would be specified

element that has function as modifier (italic type) and to be a head (bold type) of the phrase as the data shown below.(all the data quoted from Cleo magazine).

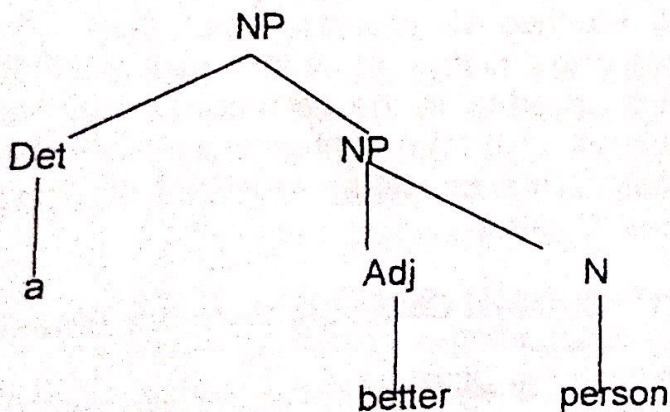
1. We had *a few* **bumps**.(page 60)
2. You go to become *a better* **person** (page 60).
3. I always had *fun reading* **books** (page 60)
4. It was *really hard* **adjustment**....(page 60)
5. You really have to keep *that* **stuff private** (page 62)
6. Marriage is *extremely* **important** to me. (page 62)
7. She joined *singles* **clubs** (page 65).
8. He run *very* **slowly** (page 66).
9. This cost seems *quite* **expensive** (page 66)
10. you are going to marry *the most wonderful* **man** (page 66)

Later on all the phrases would be analysis by using three diagram.

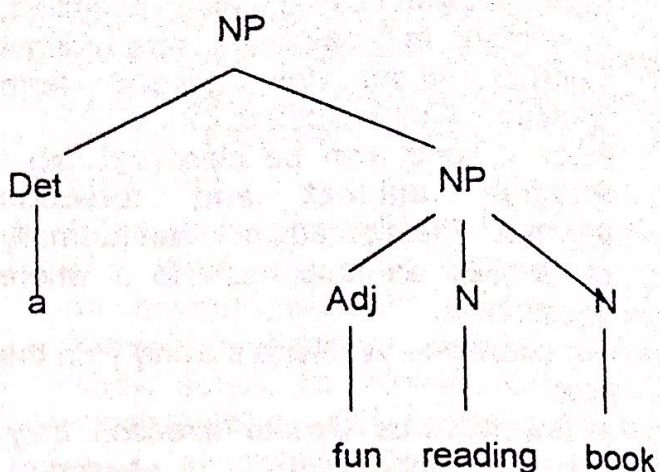
(1) a few bumps



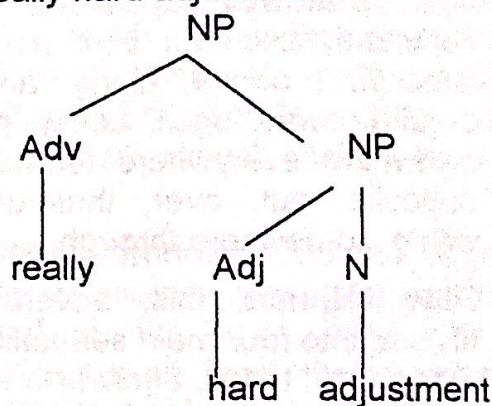
(2) a better person



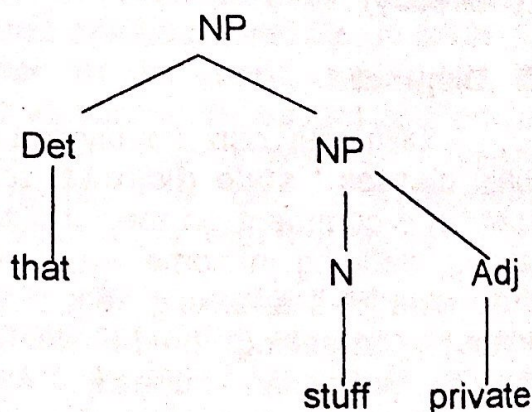
(3) fun reading books



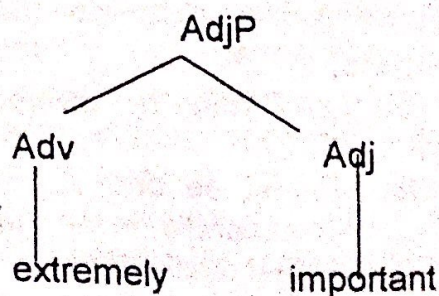
(4) really hard adjustment



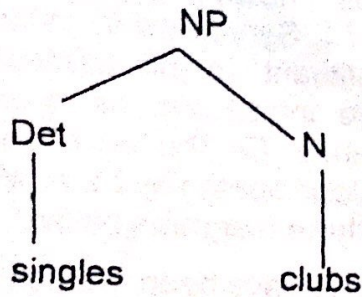
(5) that stuff private



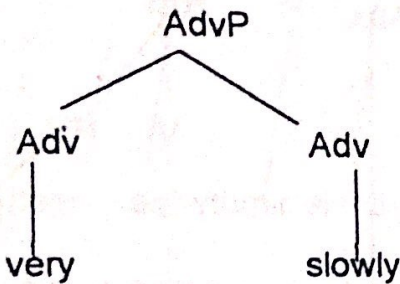
(6) Extremely important



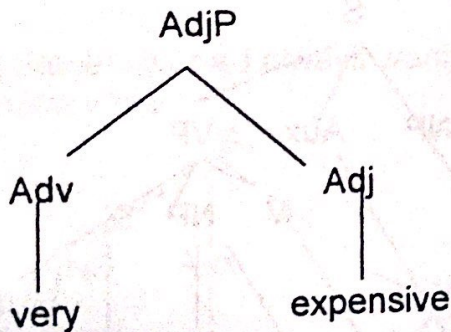
(7) singles clubs



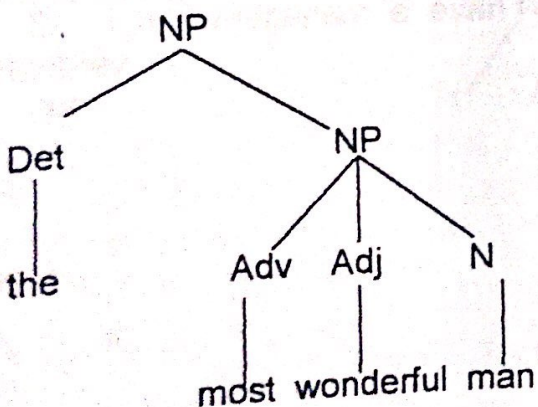
(8) very slowly



(9) quite expensive



(10) the most wonderful man



3.2. Optionall Constituent in The Sentence Level

In this analysis the way that should be done to specify an adverbial to be an optional constituent is by leaving out the adverbial(bold type) of the sentences like :

1. I **personally** could not imagine still being there. (Cleo, 1999:64)
2. I **definitely** do it. (Cleo, 1999:64)
3. You **really** have to keep that stuff private. (Cleo, 1999:64)

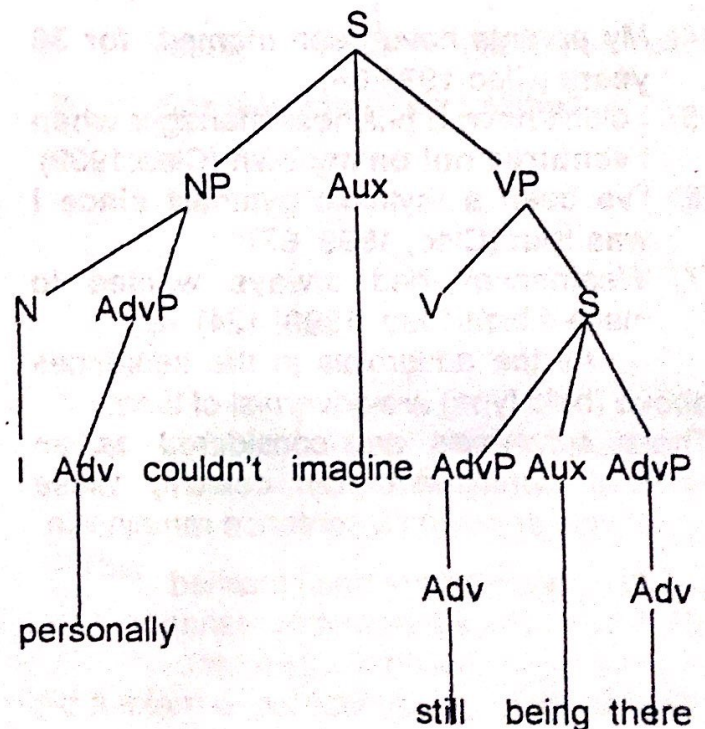
The three adverbials are considered as optional constituent . The omitting of these adverbials still yield grammatical sentences like :

1. I could not imagine still being there.
2. I do it.
3. You have to keep that stuff private.

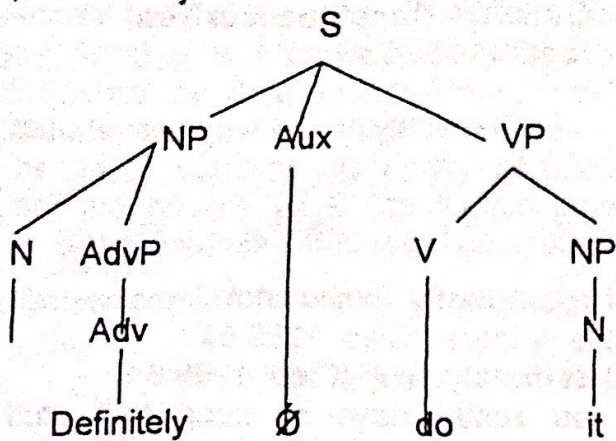
Later on each sentence will be analyzed by using three diagram successively .

In the sentence (1) the clause still being there is subordinate clause. So that this sentence has diagram longer than the others two.

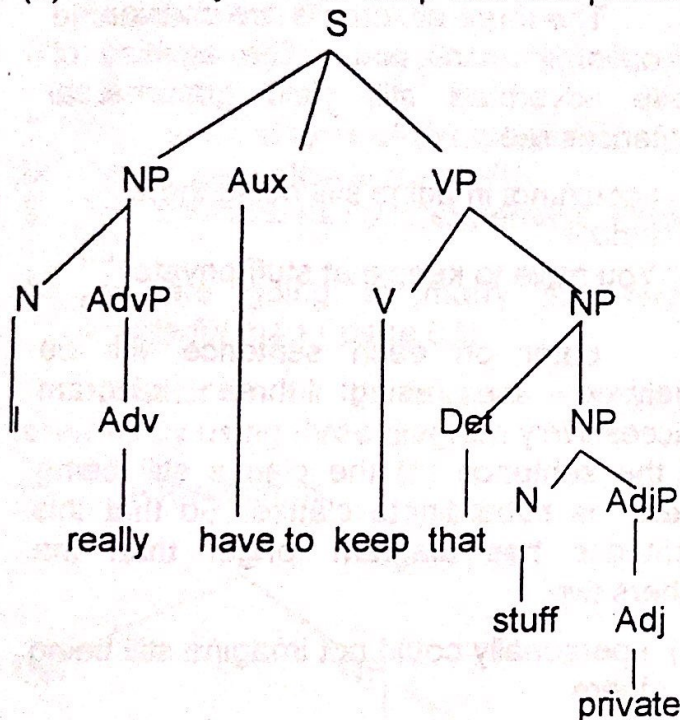
- (1) I personally could not imagine still being there.



(2) I definitely do it



(3) You really have to keep that stuff private.



(4) My parents have been married **for 36 years**. (Cleo, 1999:64)

(5) I didn't have a business manager **when I ventured out on my own** (Cleo, 1999)

(6) I've been a rhythmic gymnast **since I was four**. (Cleo, 1999: 67)

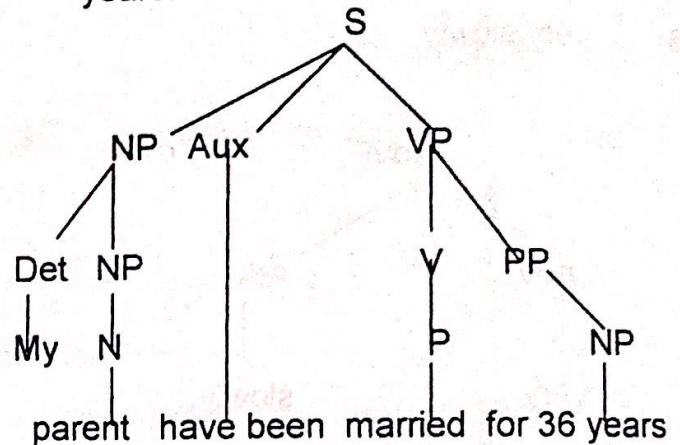
(7) Weatherwax had **always** wanted to make it big. (Cleo, 1999: 124)

All the adverbials in the sentences above (bold type) are adverbial of time. These adverbials are considered as an optional constituent. By deleting these adverbials acceptable sentence remain like

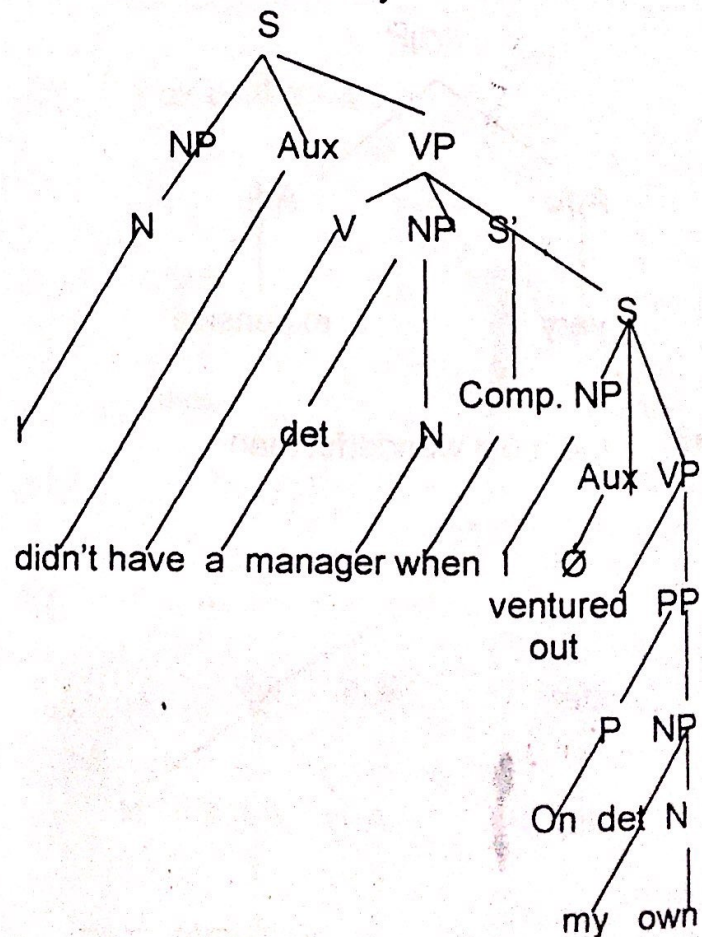
- (4') My parents have been married
- (5') I didn't have a business manager
- (6') I've been a rhythmic gymnast.
- (7') Weatherwax had wanted to make it big.

Traditionally constituents with adverbial function have been seen as modifiers in which modify the head (nuclear sentence) as shown in the sentences (4', 5', 6', and 7'). Syntactically, modifier are optional constituent. In this sentences the adverbials are introduced as a sister of nuclear sentence. So the adverbials here modify a nuclear sentence as a whole as shown in the three diagrams below.

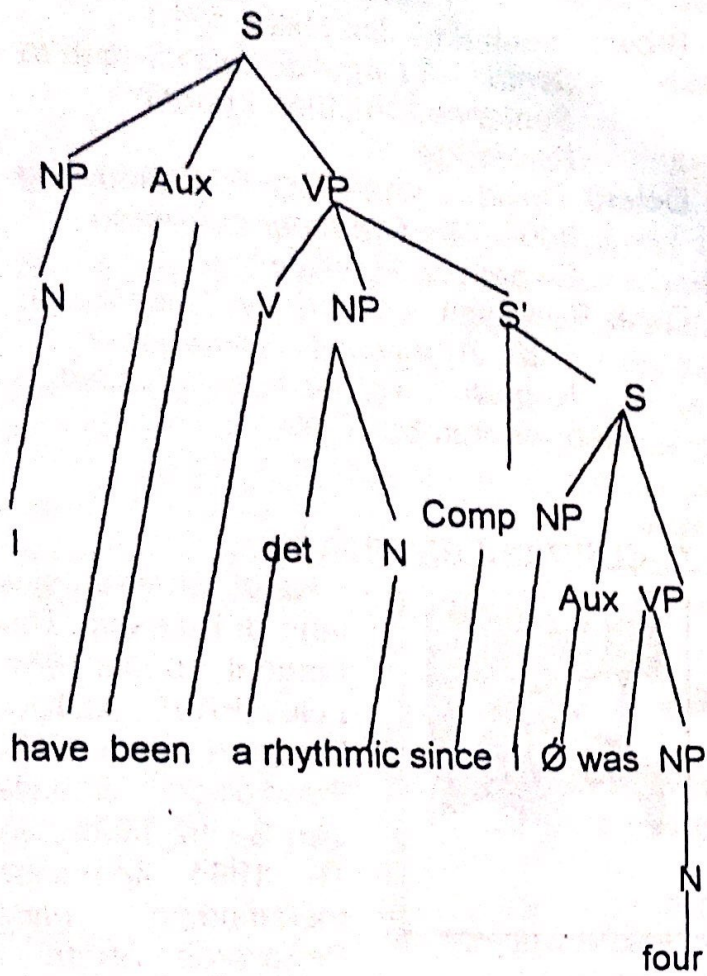
(4) My parents have been married for 36 years.



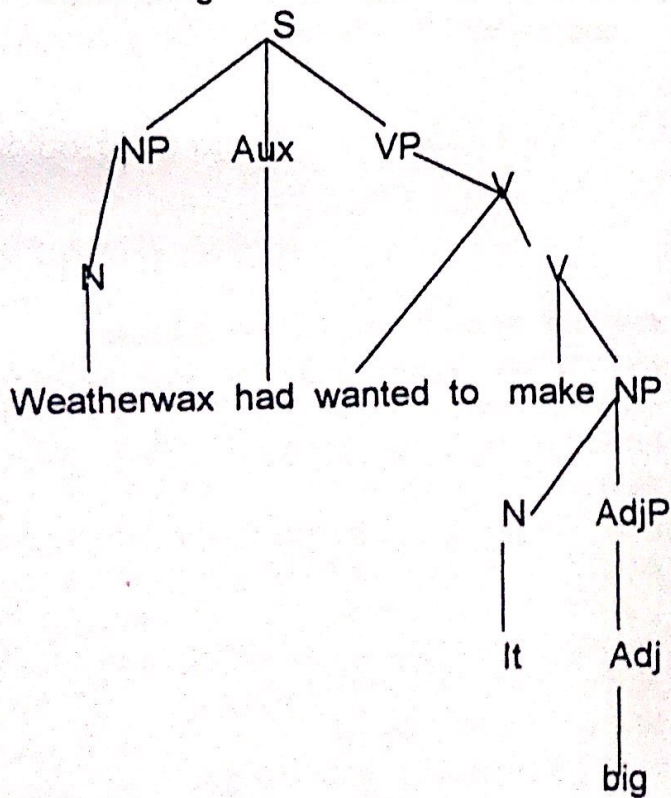
(5) I didn't have a business manager when I ventured out on my own.



(6) I've been a rhythmic gymnast since I was Four



(7) Weatherwax had always wanted to make it big

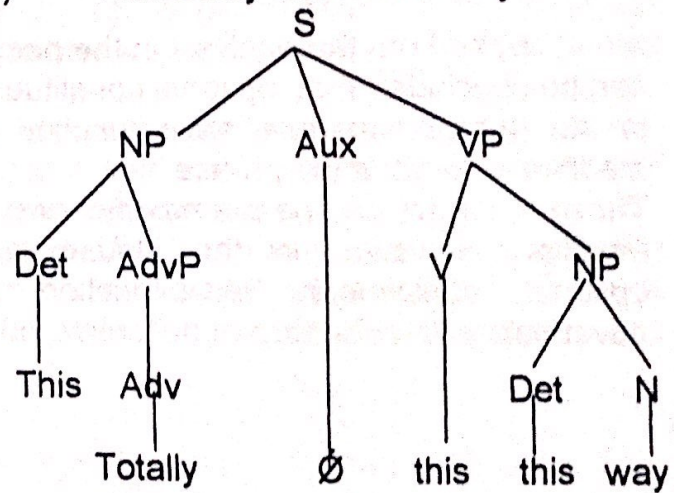


The three sentences below have adverbials or intensifier adjunct (bold type). These adjuncts have feature as optional constituent within the clause. The omissions of these adjuncts don't influence the unity of the sentence as shown in the sentences (8'), (9'), (10').

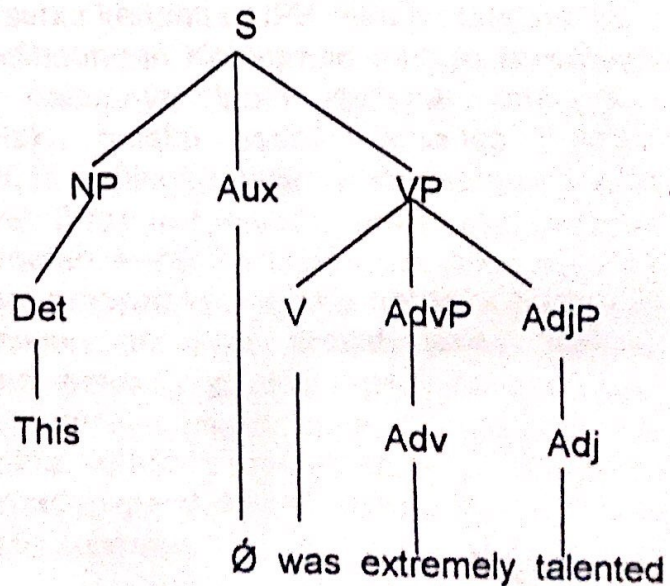
- (8). This **totally** affects this way (Cleo, 1999:109)
- (8') This affects this way.
- (9) She was **extremely** talented (Cleo, 1999:109)
- (9') She was talented.
- (10') **Obviously**, you should learn this way. (Cleo, 1999:119)
- (10) You should learn this way.

Further more, would be drawn the three diagram each of the sentences above.

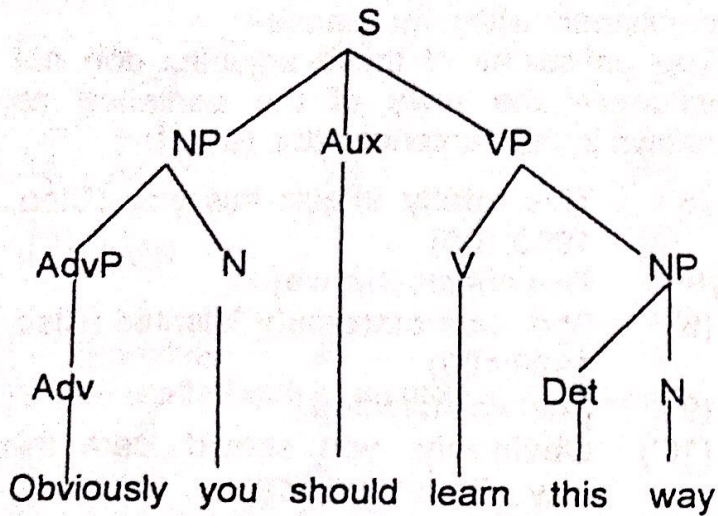
(8) This totally affects this way .



(9) She was extremely talented.



(10) Obviously, you should learn this way .



IV. CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis in the point 3, can be concluded that optional constituents in the phrase structure have function as modifier of head of the phrase. These modifiers can be pre modifier or post modifier. However, in the clause level optional constituent has function as adverbial.

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*) CURRICULUM VITAE



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