

COURSE TITLE: SYNTAX

WEEK 11: TRANSFORMATIONAL GENERATIVE GRAMMAR 2

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INTRODUCTION

- ▶ TGG
- ▶ Transformational component- T- Rules
- ▶ Affix hopping
- ▶ Passive transformation:
- ▶ Demonstrate that T rules are powerful as:
- ▶ They move items- movement transformational rules
- ▶ They insert/ add items in insertion / addition transformation
- ▶ They delete items in deletion transformation

Chomsky, N. (1965). *Aspects of the theory of syntax*. USA: Mouton.

Radford, A. (1988). *Transformational grammar: A first course*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

INTRODUCTION

- ▶ This lesson tells more about how the T -rules are applied in other transformations:
- ▶ Question/ interrogative
- ▶ Negative
- ▶ Imperative

Lesson outcomes

- ▶ By the end of the lesson, you should be able to:
- ▶ 1. perform interrogative transformations
- ▶ 2. Perform negative transformations
- ▶ 3. Perform imperative transformations

THE INTERROGATIVE TRANSFORMATION

- ▶ two types of questions or interrogatives:
- ▶ The 'Yes-No' also known as the Polar or closed questions
- ▶ the 'wh-' also known as content or open questions.
- ▶ In TGG both types of questions are formed from declarative sentences
- ▶ the original form of a question is a statement - a product of re-write rules in the deep structure.

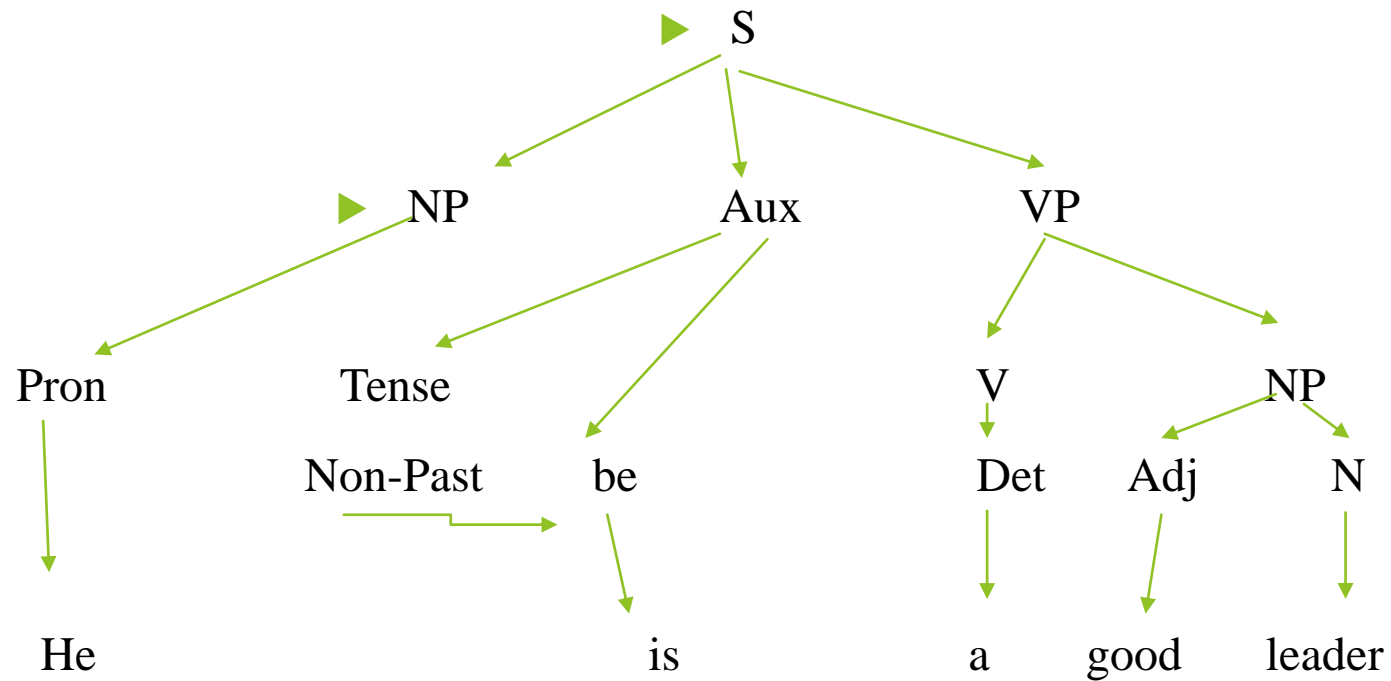
YES- NO INTERROGATIVE

- ▶ The response to this type of Q is either YES/NO.
- ▶ These two responses are direct opposites hence the term polar which means 'placed at extreme ends'.
- ▶ They are also said to be closed questions because the answers are severely limited e.g.
- ▶ SD- He is a good leader.
- ▶ $S \rightarrow NP + Aux + VP$
- ▶ $NP \rightarrow Pron$
- ▶ $Aux \rightarrow Tense$
- ▶ $Tense \rightarrow Non-past$

Yes/ No interrogative

- ▶ $VP \rightarrow V + NP_2$
- ▶ $NP \rightarrow Det + Adj + N$
- ▶ $Pron \rightarrow He$
- ▶ $V \rightarrow be$
- ▶ $Adj \rightarrow good$
- ▶ $N \rightarrow leader$
- ▶ $Det \rightarrow a$

Yes/ No interrogative



Yes - No transformation

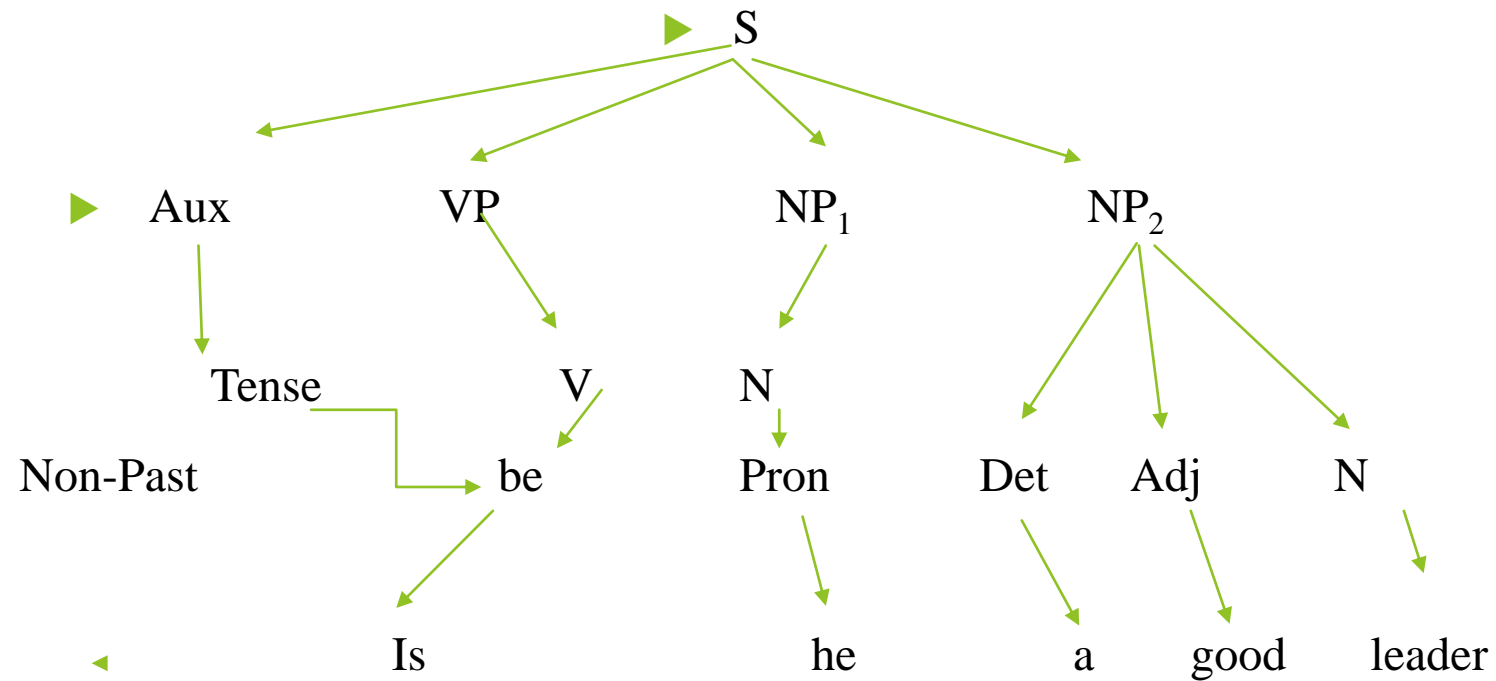
- *Is he a good leader?*
 - ▶ $S \rightarrow \text{Aux} + \text{VP} + \text{NP}_1 + \text{NP}_2$
 - ▶ $\text{Aux} \rightarrow \text{Tense}$
 - ▶ $\text{Tense} \rightarrow \text{Non-past}$
 - ▶ $\text{VP} \rightarrow \text{V}$
 - ▶ $\text{NP}_1 \rightarrow \text{Pron}$
 - ▶ $\text{NP}_2 \rightarrow \text{Det} + \text{Adj} + \text{N}$



Yes- No interrogative

- ▶ V → be
- ▶ Pron → He
- ▶ Det → a
- ▶ Adj → good
- ▶ N → leader

Yes- No transformation



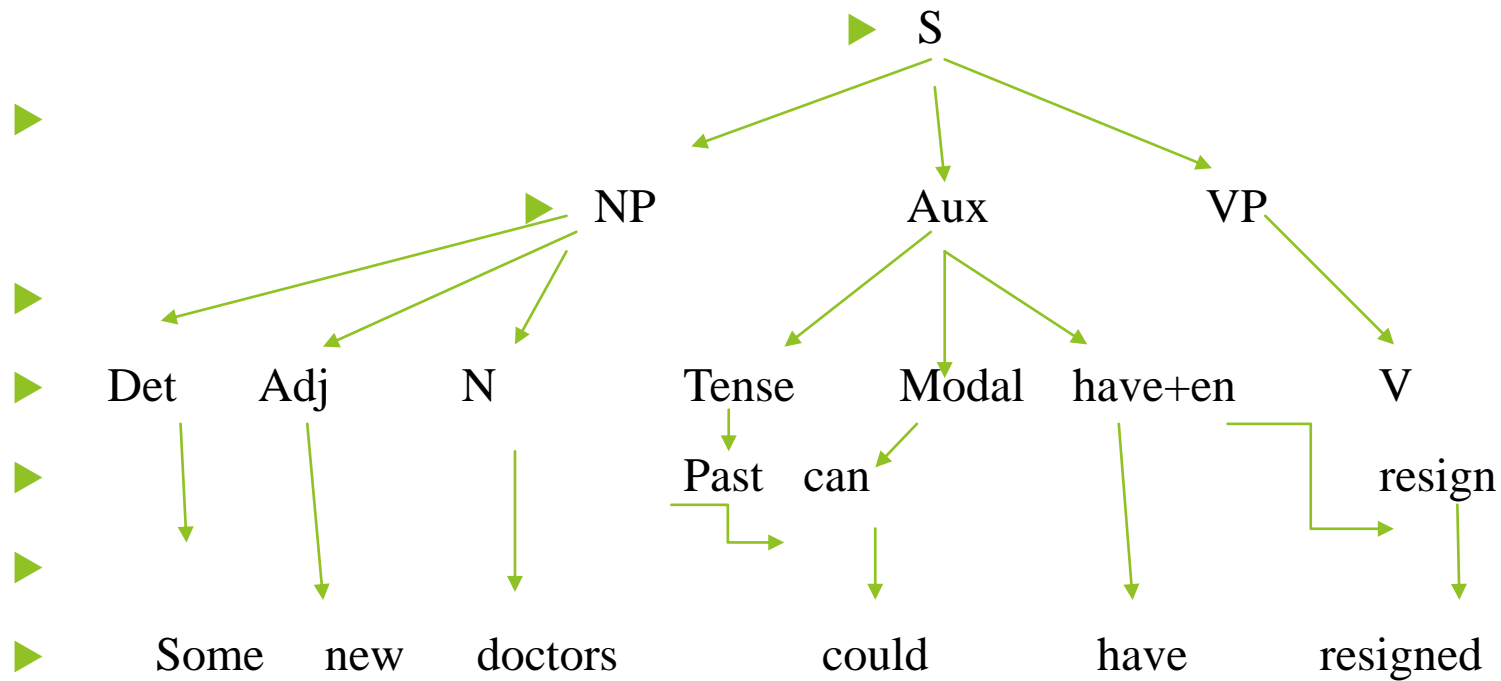
Yes - No transformation

- ▶ The changes that have occurred as you move from the SD to SC:
- ▶ He is a good leader.
- ▶ He is not a good leader.
- ▶ SV Inversion
- ▶ the Aux and the VP in have moved to the sentence initial
- ▶ The NP (Pron)- comes after the verb

Yes no interrogative

- ▶ *Some new doctors could have resigned.*
- ▶ $S \rightarrow NP + Aux + VP$
- ▶ $NP \rightarrow Det + Adj + N$
- ▶ $Aux \rightarrow Tense + Modal + Have+en$
- ▶ $Tense \rightarrow past$
- ▶ $VP \rightarrow V$
- ▶ $Det \rightarrow Some$
- ▶ $Adj \rightarrow new$
- ▶ $N \rightarrow doctors$
- ▶ $V \rightarrow resign$

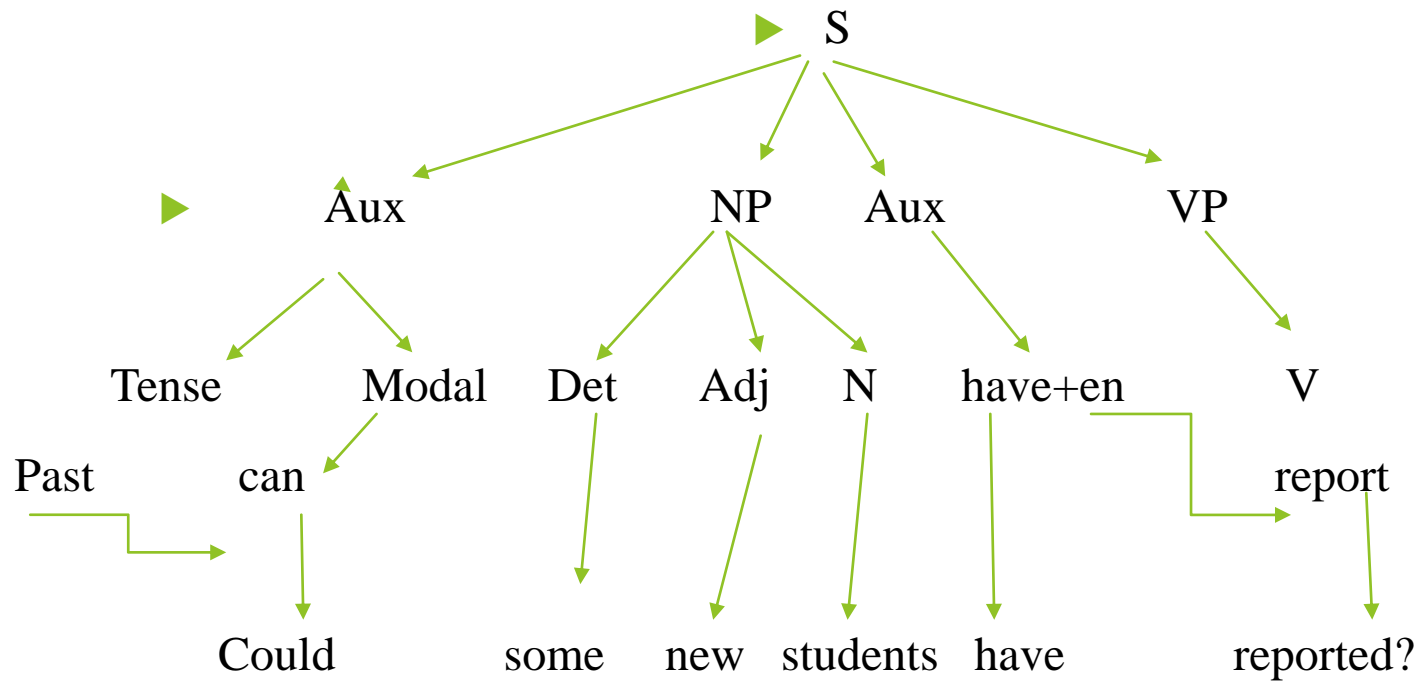
Yes- No interrogative



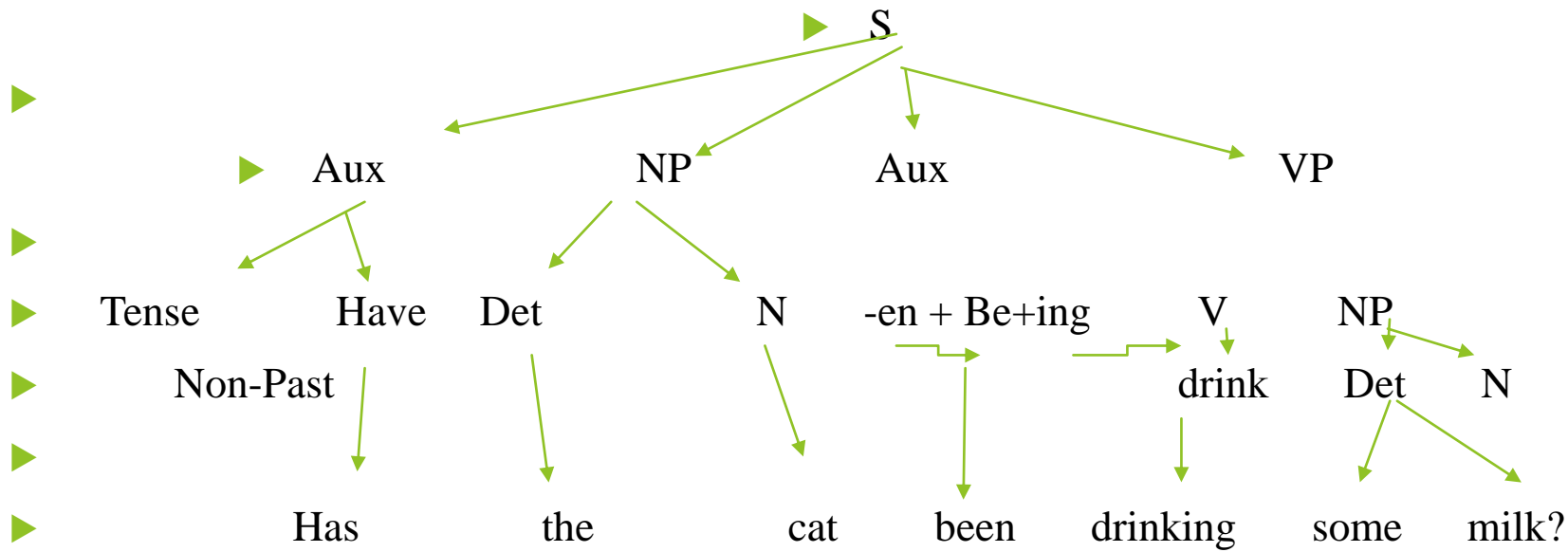
Yes- no interrogative

- ▶ •Could some new doctors have resigned?
- ▶ $S \rightarrow \text{Aux} + \text{NP} + \text{Aux} + \text{VP}$
- ▶ $\text{Aux} \rightarrow \text{Tense} + \text{Modal}$
- ▶ $\text{Tense} \rightarrow \text{past}$
- ▶ $\text{NP} \rightarrow \text{Det} + \text{Adj} + \text{N}$
- ▶ $\text{Aux} \rightarrow \text{Have} + \text{en}$
- ▶ $\text{VP} \rightarrow \text{V}$
- ▶ $\text{Det} \rightarrow \text{Some}$
- ▶ $\text{Adj} \rightarrow \text{new}$
- ▶ $\text{N} \rightarrow \text{doctors}$
- ▶ $\text{V} \rightarrow \text{resigned}$

Yes- No interrogative



Yes- no interrogative



- ▶ **NB:** *'have'* has been separated from its partner *'en'*. Only *'tense'* and the first full verb *'have'* that move to sentence initial position.
- ▶ *Note:* Draw the SD marker: *The cat has been drinking milk.*

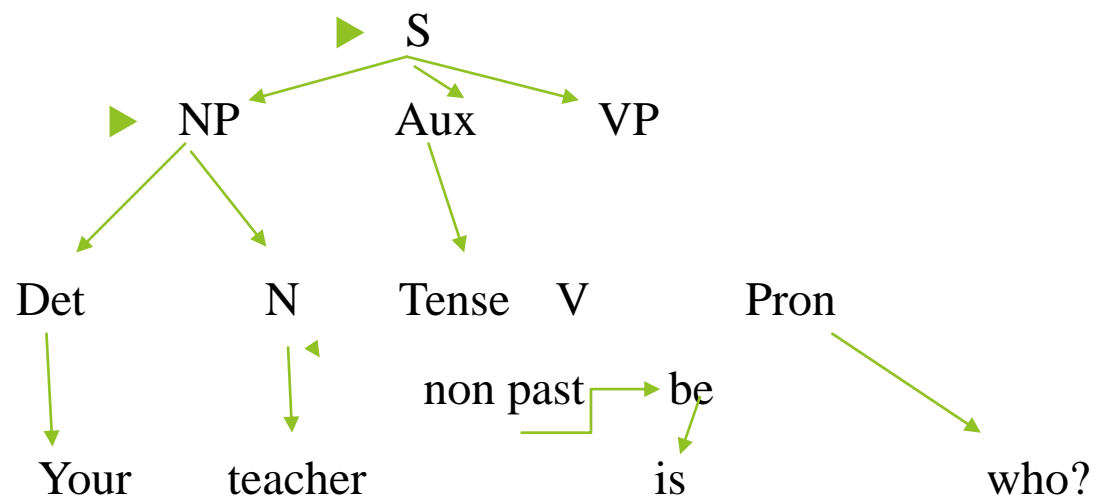
Wh- interrogative

- ▶ These are formed from statements containing a dummy pronoun such as
- ▶ ‘who’ and ‘what’ that begins with ‘wh’.
- ▶ Hence the term Wh interrogatives.
- ▶ The question ‘*Who is your teacher?*’ Comes from the statement ‘*Your teacher is who?*’

Wh - interrogative

- ▶ *Your teacher is who?*
- ▶ $S \rightarrow NP + Aux + VP$
- ▶ $NP \rightarrow Det + N$
- ▶ $Aux \rightarrow Tense$
- ▶ $Tense \rightarrow Non\text{-}past$
- ▶ $VP \rightarrow V + NP$
- ▶ $Pron \rightarrow who$
- ▶ $N \rightarrow teacher$
- ▶ $Det \rightarrow Your$
- ▶ $V \rightarrow be$

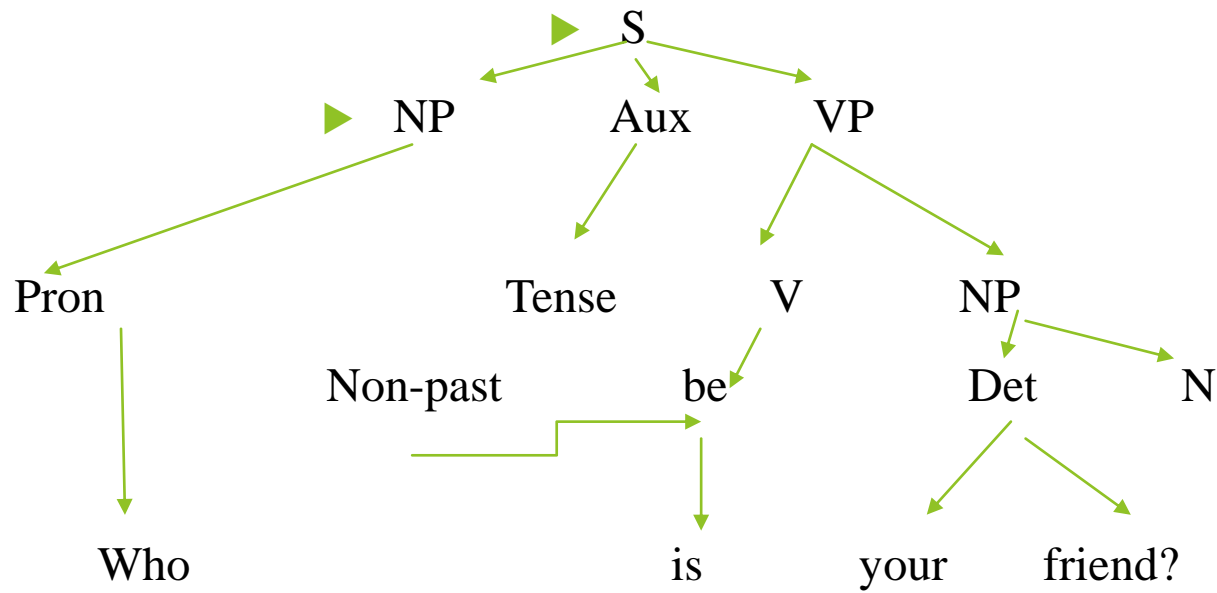
Wh - interrogative



Wh- interrogative

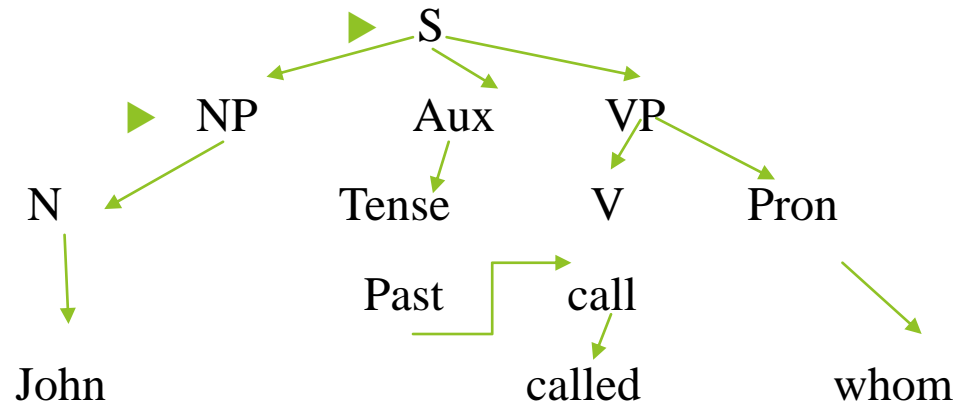
- ▶ *Who is your teacher?*
- ▶ $S \rightarrow NP + Aux + VP$
- ▶ $NP_1 \rightarrow Pron$
- ▶ $Aux \rightarrow Tense + be$
- ▶ $Tense \rightarrow Non\text{-}past$
- ▶ $VP \rightarrow V + NP$
- ▶ $NP_2 \rightarrow Det + N$
- ▶ $Pron \rightarrow Who$
- ▶ $V \rightarrow be$
- ▶ $Det \rightarrow your$
- ▶ $N \rightarrow teacher$

Wh- interrogative



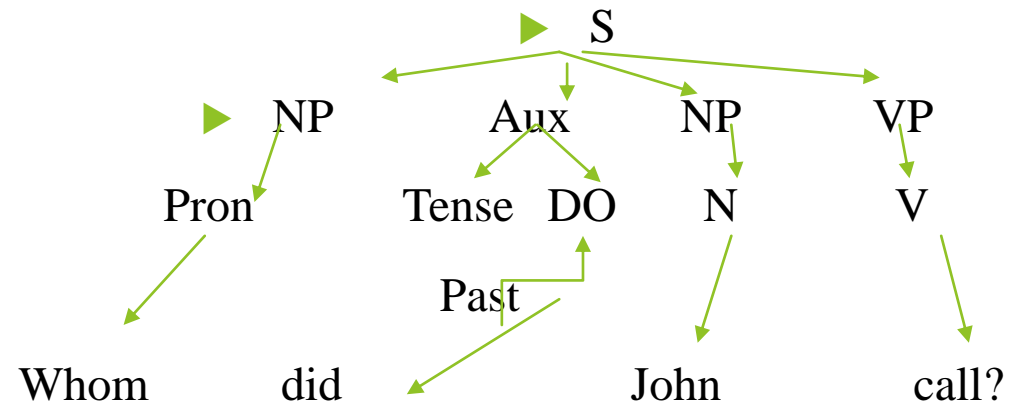
Wh- interrogative

- ▶ Whom did Daisy call? (SC)
- ▶ Daisy called whom? (SD)
- ▶ SD



Wh- interrogative

- ▶ Whom did Daisy call? (SC)



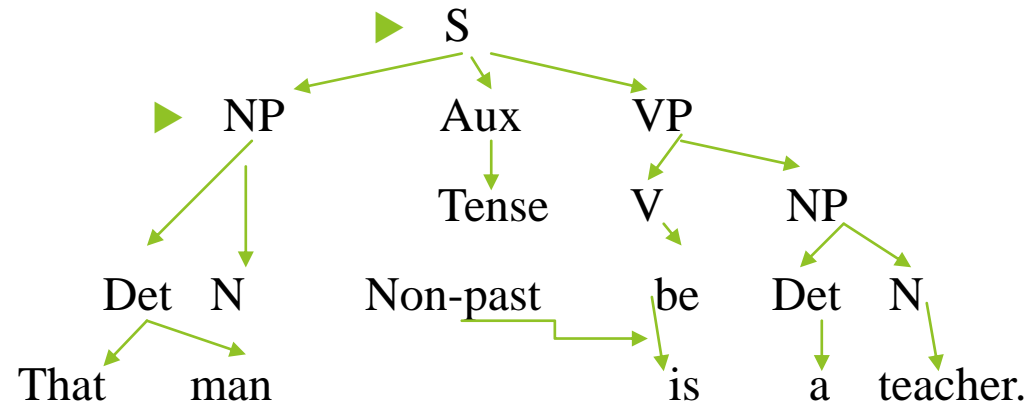
- ▶ Note: Apart from the movement transformation, there is also insertion transformation of the dummy operator 'do'.

THE NEGATIVE TRANSFORMATION

- ▶ Negative statements are derived from positive or affirmative ones by,
- ▶ introducing the negative particle 'not'.
- ▶ Hence the statement - *That man is not a teacher* comes from the positive one - *That man is a teacher*.
- ▶ SD: That man is a teacher.
- ▶ SC: That man is not a teacher.
- ▶ Notice the addition of the negative particle 'not'.

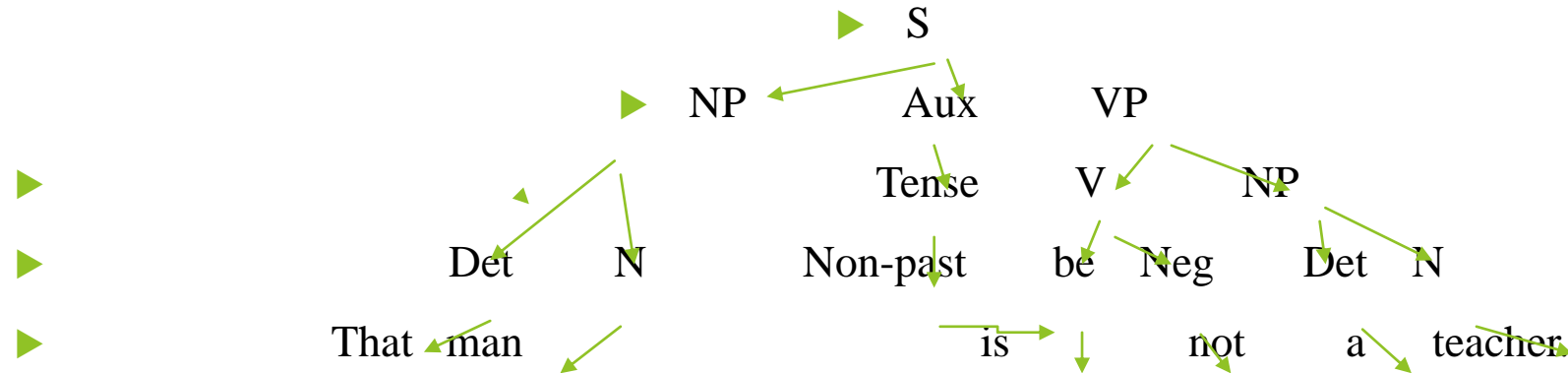
The negative transformation

a. That man is a teacher.



Negative transformation

- SC: That lady is not a doctor.



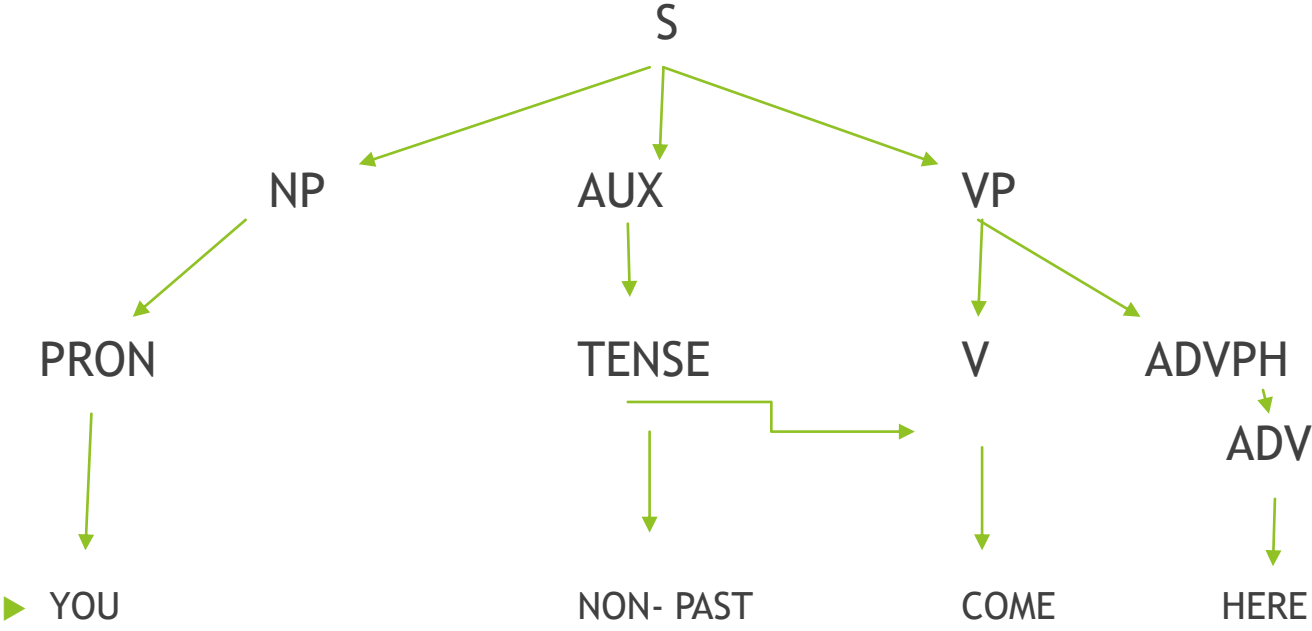
- i) The negative particle is added to the primary auxiliary when acting as a main verb. When there is another main verb it is added to the auxiliary.
- ii) The transformations dealt with above are the major ones. There are other minor transformations such as:

THE IMPERATIVE TRANSFORMATION

- ▶ The imperative sentence is derived from a statement:
- ▶ Statement- SD
- ▶ Imperative: SC
- ▶ You come here. - SD
- ▶ Come here.- SC
- ▶ In the SC, there is deletion of the subject or NP 1.

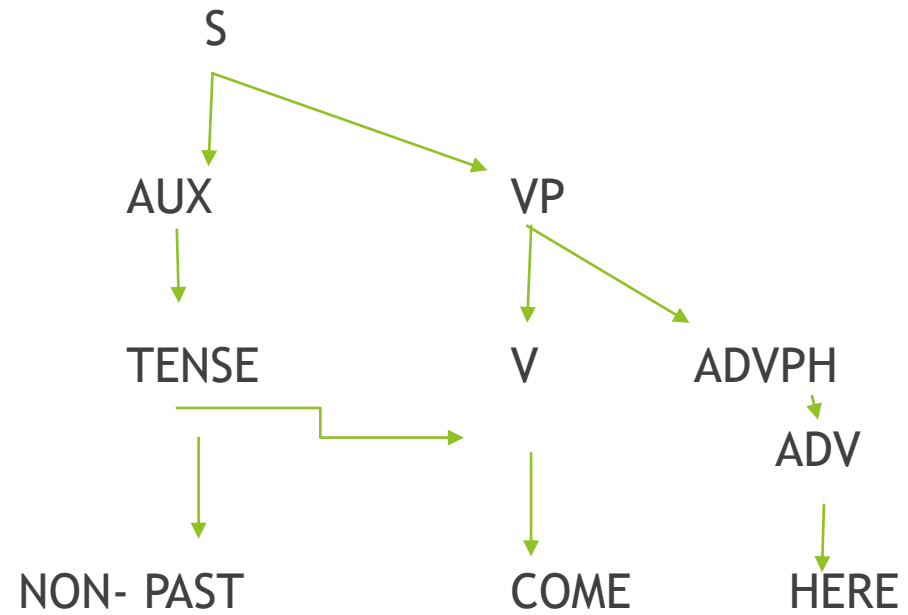
IMPERATIVE (SD)

- ▶
- ▶
- ▶
- ▶



IMPERATIVE (SC)

- ▶
- ▶
- ▶
- ▶
- ▶



SUMMARY

- ▶ More transformations
- ▶ Question
- ▶ Negative
- ▶ Imperative

References

- ▶ Chomsky, N. (1965). *Aspects of the theory of syntax*. USA: Mouton.
- ▶ Radford, A. (1988). *Transformational grammar: A first course*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.