

The background of the slide is a black field filled with a dense, overlapping pattern of various blue script characters. These characters include letters, symbols, and decorative flourishes from different languages and alphabets, such as Latin, Greek, and possibly some non-Latin scripts. The characters are scattered across the entire area, creating a rich, textured visual effect.

LINGUISTICS 183

WEEK 4

Spokaans by Rolandt Tweehuysen

Jân kette ef mimpit ón Elsa.

“Jan gives the book to Elsa.”

Jân ef mimpit kette ón Elsa.

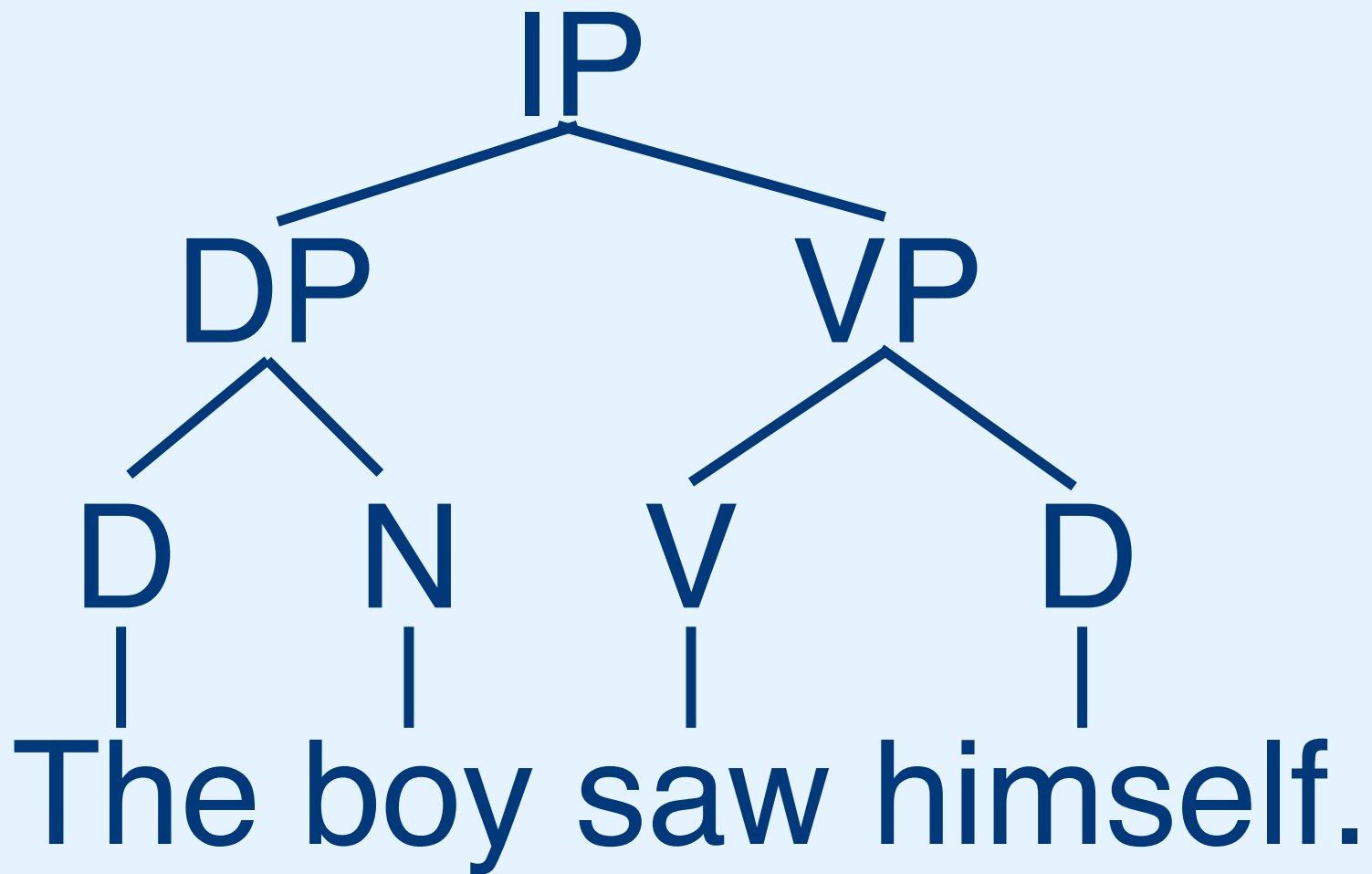
“Jan gave the book to Elsa.”

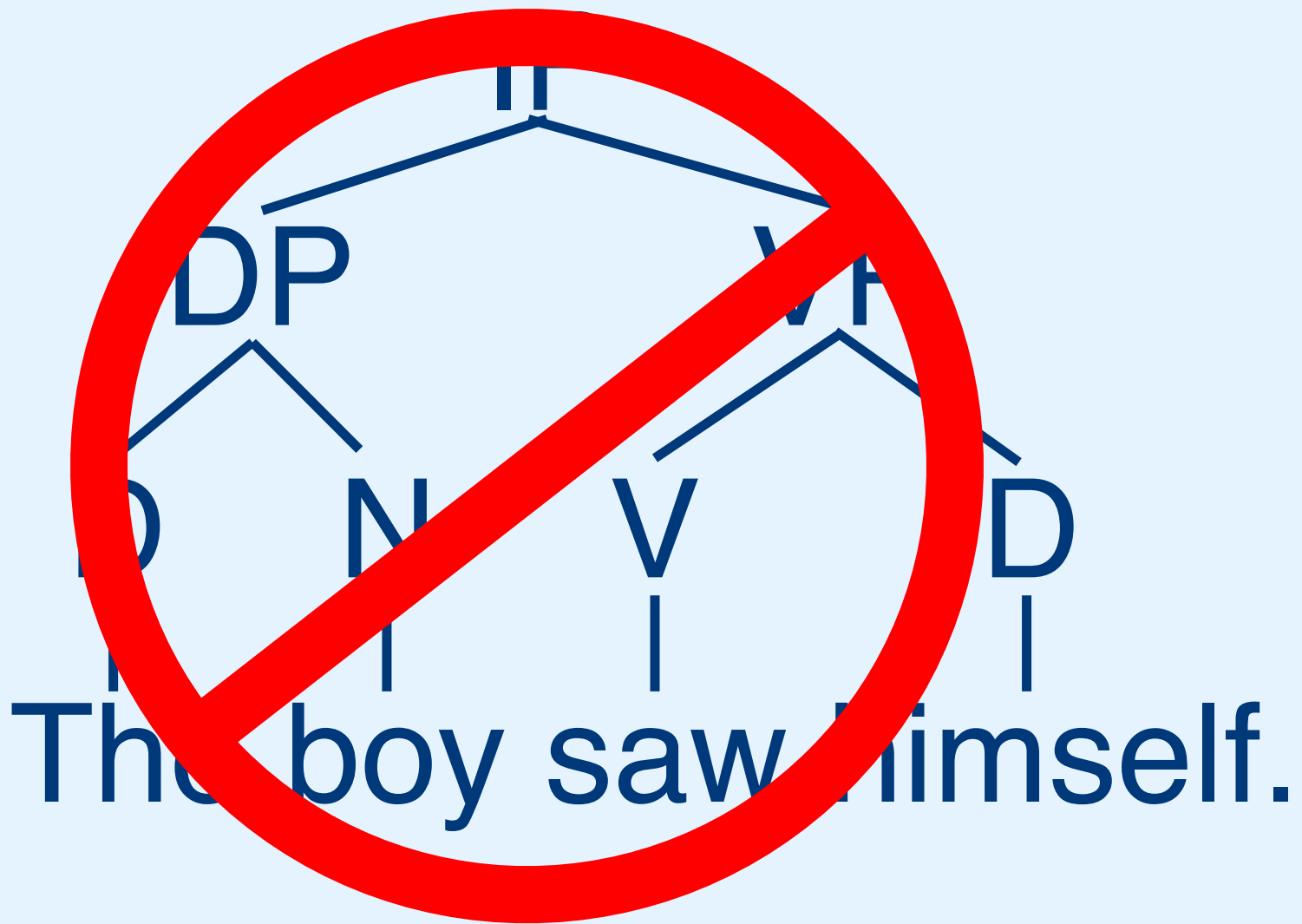
Kette Jân ef mimpit ón Elsa.

“Jan will give the book to Elsa.”

SYNTAX AND PRAGMATICS

The boy saw himself.





The happy cat slept.

*Happy the cat slept.

*Happy cat the slept.

*Happy slept cat the.

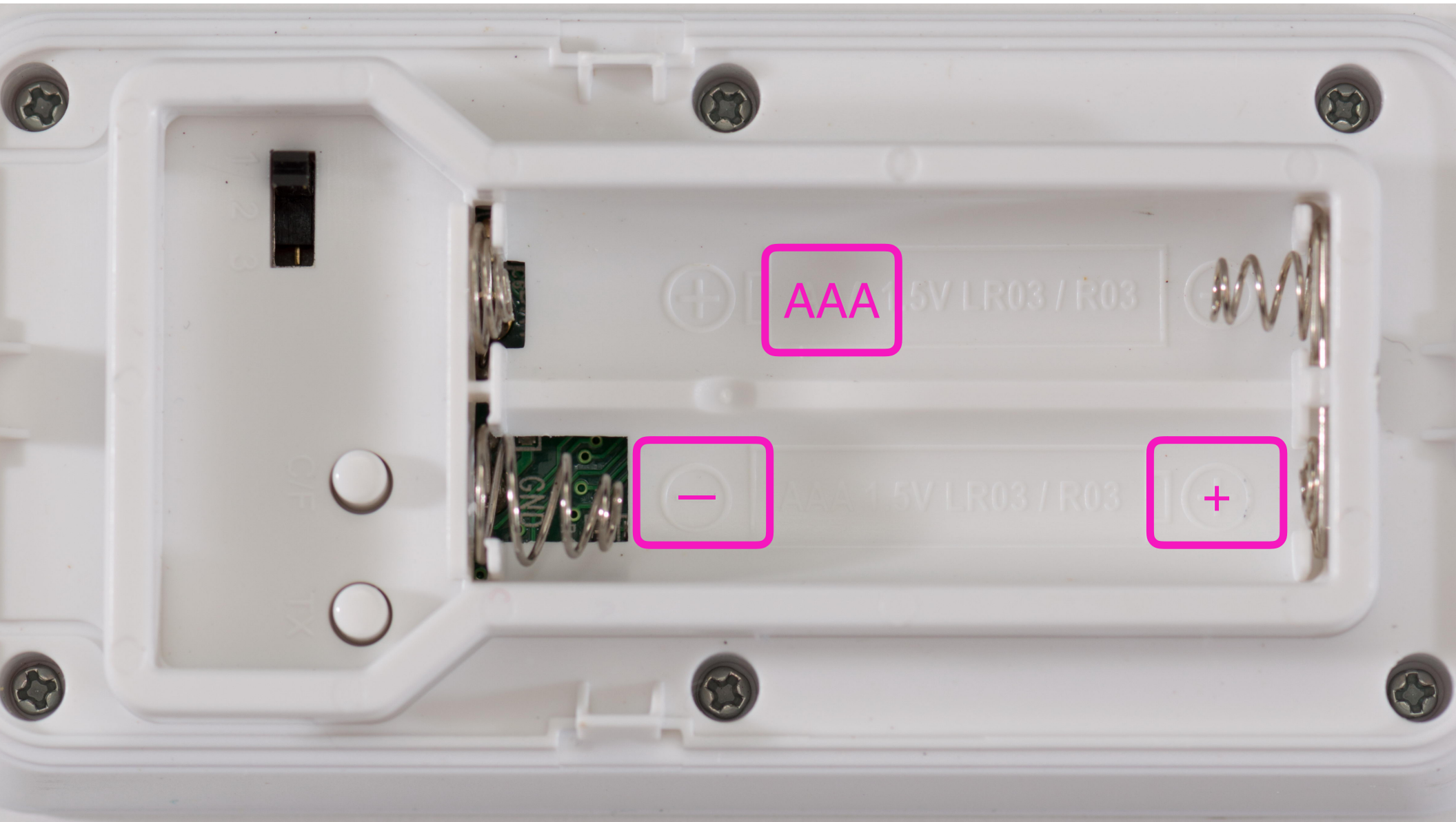
*Slept cat happy the.

Valency
Relativization
Subordination
Questions
Topicalization

VALENCY

**Valency: What arguments
can appear with which
verbs.**





Intransitive: One argument
(monovalent).

Transitive: Two arguments
(divalent/bivalent).

Ditransitive: Three
arguments (trivalent).

The cat ate the steak.
I put the cat in the rocket.

eat { α [NOM]eater, (β [ACC]eaten) }

put { α [NOM]putter, β [ACC]puttee,
PREP γ [__]location }

The cat V the steak.
NP ate NP.

The cat ate the steak.
The cat licked the steak.

The cat ate the steak last
Saturday on a park bench
with a pigeon.

The cat licked the steak last
Saturday on a park bench
with a pigeon.

The cat danced last
Saturday on a park bench
with a pigeon.

Languages allow verbs to do things to/with the arguments they specify, and to add to or decrease their number.

Valency Reducing: Getting
rid of a core argument.

Valency Increasing: Adding
a core argument.

Valency Reducing Passivization Antipassivization

$$V \{ \alpha[C_X], \beta[C_Y] \}$$

$$V' \{ a[C_x] \}$$

Passivization
I saw him.
NOM V ACC

Passivization

~~I~~ saw him.

~~NOM~~ V ACC

Passivization



Passivization
He was seen.
NOM PASS V-AGR

Antipassivization

Sena toru val.

The boy ate the apple.

ERG V ABS

Antipassivization

Sena toru val.

The boy ate the apple.

ERG V AFS

Antipassivization

Sena toru .

The boy ate .

ERG V

Antipassivization
Sen torule.
The boy ate.
ABS V-ANT

Passivization

The boy saw the girl and
ran.

Passivization

The girl was seen by the boy
and ran.

Antipassivization

The boy saw the girl and
ran.

See = transitive (seer =
ergative, seeeee =
absolutive)

Run = intransitive (runner =
absolutive)

Therefore in ergative-absolutive languages, coordination is with transitive objects and intransitive subjects.

Antipassivization

The boy saw the girl and
ran.

Antipassivization

The boy saw of the girl and
ran.

I came, I saw, I conquered.

~~I came, I saw, I conquered.~~

I came, I was seen, I was
conquered.

Passives apply to direct
objects mostly; sometimes
others.

I gave an apple to the boy.

The apple was given to the
boy.

The boy was given an apple.

The boy was given an apple.
*The boy was given.

Antipassives apply to
ergative arguments.

IF you can optionally reintroduce the removed argument, it's done with an oblique strategy.

I was seen *by the bird*.
He shot *at the student*.

Not usually done with a special case. Reintroduced agents use more agentive morphology (instrumental, etc.)...

Reintroduced absolutes
use more patientive
morphology (partitive,
allative, dative, etc.).

Generally core cases are not used (nominative, ergative, absolutive, accusative).

Sources for Passives

“Eat”, “fall”, “get”, “suffer”,
“see”, reflexive, third person
plural.

Sources for Passives

Nzua a-mu-mono.

John they-him-saw.

“They saw John.”

Sources for Passives

Nzua a-mu-mono (kwa meme).

John they-him-saw (by me).

“John was seen (by me).”

Sources for Antipassives
Reflexives, “do”, “go”,
sources for intransitives.

Source may suggest
marking for reintroduced
argument.

Antipassive Example

I hugged the fish.

Antipassive Example

I did-hugging.

Antipassive Example
I did-hugging to the fish.

Digression

Usual Passive

I eat a fish.

A fish is eaten by me.

Digression

I have him bound. → I have
bound him.

Digression

Present Completed State →
Anterior → Past Tense

Digression

Usual Passive

I eat a fish.

A fish is eaten by me.

Digression

A fish is eaten by me.

“In the present, a fish is in the state of having been eaten by me.”

Digression

I eat a fish. → Present

A fish is eaten by me. → Past

Digression

BUT

With the loss of the passive as a regular morphological construction, what does this look like?

Digression

I eat a fish. → Present

A fish is eaten by me. → Past

Digression

I eat a fish. → Present

A fish is eaten by me. → Past

Digression

A eat P. → Present

S is eaten A. → Past

Digression

The result is split ergativity:
Accusative in the present,
ergative in the past.

Digression

Happened in Hindi,
Georgian, and many others.

Valency Increasing Causativization Applicativization

**Causativization: When
someone makes someone
do something.**

$V \{ \alpha[C_x] (\beta[C_y]) \}$

$V' \{ \gamma[C_x], \alpha[C_{\{x/y/z\}}] (\beta[C_y]) \}$

Causativization

I pet the cat.

The dog made me pet the
cat.

Causativization
The pot is black.
I blackened the pot.

Causativization

I made the pot.

I made him.

I made him eat a vegetable.

Causativization

I made the pot.

I made him.

I made him **eat a vegetable.**

Luo

Koth no-miyo wa-bedo e
tiend yath.

“The rain made us stay at
the foot of the tree.”

Luo

Koth **no-miyo wa-bedo** e
tiend yath.

no = 3SG miyo = give

wa = 1PL bedo = stay

Subordination vs. Non-Subordination

Causee Groups with Matrix vs. Groups with Subordinate Clause

High Valyrian

qurdot pa:letille go:vile:dan.

/table-DAT crown-ACC v/

“I put the crown under the
table.”

Twí

o-de né nnípa fòro bépow.

/he-take his men ascend
mountain/

“He makes his men ascend
the mountain.”

Twí

o-de né nnípa fòro bépow.
V OBJ V OBJ

“He makes his men ascend
the mountain.”

Sources for Causatives

“Take”, “give”, “make”, “do”,
“force”, etc.

Applicativization: When a non-core argument is raised to a *non-nominative/ absolutive* core argument

I ran faster than him.
I outran him.

I outran him.
*I outran.

$V \{ \alpha[C_x] (\beta[C_y]) \}$

$$V' \{ \alpha[C_X], \gamma[C_Y] (\beta[C_Y]) \}$$

Yagua

sijchitíríya javanu quiichitya.

“He poked the meat with a
knife.”

Yagua
sɔ̃chitítɣara quiichiy.

“He poked something with a
knife.”

Yagua
sɔ̃tʃhitítɣara quiichiy.
“He jabbed the knife.”

Sometimes...

Intransitive + X = Causative

Transitive + X = Applicative

Seko Padang
jambu mirène'.
“The guava fell.”

Seko Padang
Matius marrène'ing jambu.
“Matthew dropped the
guava.”

Seko Padang
Yeni mangala kinanne.
“Jenny is getting rice.”

Seko Padang

Yeni mangalaing kinanne:
adinna.

“Jenny is getting rice for her
brother.”

Sometimes...

He played basketball.

She outplayed him.

*She outplayed him
basketball.

But Sometimes...
Umugóre arakore
umuhuungu igitabo.
“The woman read the boy
the book.”

Types of Applicatives
Benefactive/Malefactive,
Instrumental, Locative,
Comitative, Allative,
Purposive...

Applicatives \approx Cases

Sources of Applicatives \approx Sources of Cases/ Adpositions

Noun → Adposition →
Adverb → Applicative

ADVERBS

Adverbs: Modify the action of the sentence in some way (sometimes also adjectives).

Adverb Types

Temporal

Locative

Manner

Locative

Often basic in the same way demonstratives are (so if “this” and “that” are basic, “here” and “there” will be).

Locative
Others derived from cases
(either fossilized or never
fully realized).

Locative
ahead
aside
abroad
afoot
ashore

Locative
an (i.e. “on”) + N

Temporal

Some basic (words for “now”, “today”, “yesterday”, “tomorrow”, “then” often basic).

Temporal

If not, formed from cases, or via metaphorical extension (e.g. “after” and “before”).

Manner
quickly
well
awesomely

Manner
ADJ + SUFFIX
PREFIX + ADJ
ADJ

Manner

Many languages make *no distinction whatsoever* between adjectives and manner adverbs

Manner

For affixes: “body”, “like”,
“way”, “mind”, “style”, “type”,
etc.

Manner
Spanish
la niña rápida
el niño rápido

Manner
Spanish
rapidamente
*rapidamente

Manner
Spanish
rapida mente

Manner Spanish

mente > mente (L.) > mens

Manner
Spanish
mens = feminine

Manner
Spanish
mente = ablative

Manner Spanish

rapida mente = from/of a
quick mind

Manner Spanish

Adverb always formed on
feminine adjective because
it modified feminine noun
originally.

Tonight

- (1) PA16: Create 10 *tradable nouns* (info on site).
- (2) Radio reporter coming tomorrow.