

The Lives of Coordinate Structures: Evidence from Distribution and Cases of Three (Or More) Conjuncts

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Abstract

Coordination has long been ignored in much of the previous syntactic literature. The goal of this article is to begin the task of explaining a variety of phenomena involving coordinate structures, such as their distribution and cases where there are three (or more) conjuncts. I begin by comparing two previous accounts of coordinate structures and investigate if and how each approach could account for the phenomena of the distribution of coordinate structures and cases where there are three (or more) conjuncts. I then conclude that these structures are best analyzed as being headed by the conjunction itself. Finally, I propose a set of minimalist features on the conjunction itself that can help us account for both the distribution and selectional properties of coordinate phrases.

Key words: coordination, conjunction, minimalism, theoretical syntax

Preferred presentation style: 15-minute talk

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