

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER

SEMANTICS · SUMMER 2025 · AUTUMN EXAMINATION PERIOD ·
SECOND TAKE · MITROVIĆ · HU BERLIN

*This paper is weighted at 100%
of the final aggregate mark for this course.*

**THIS PAPER CONTAINS
THREE SECTIONS.
EACH SECTION CONTAINS THREE PROBLEMS.**

SECTION I: SOLVE ALL OF PROBLEMS IN THAT SECTION.

SECTION II: SOLVE ALL PROBLEMS IN THAT SECTION.

SECTION III: THIS SECTION IS OPTIONAL: SOLVE AS MANY
PROBLEMS IN THAT SECTION AS YOU WISH. THE MARKS
EARNED IN THIS SECTION WILL ONLY ADD TO YOUR FI-
NAL GRADE.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING
YOUR EXAMINATION PAPER IS
MIDNIGHT ON NOVEMBER 11, 2025.
SUBMIT YOUR EXAMINATION PAPER USING THE LINK
PROVIDED ON THE WEBSITE, OR ELSE BY SUBMITTING IT
MANUALLY VIA EMAIL.

SECTION I

Problem 1.3: Associate each of the three expressions (a–c) corresponding to each of the three sentences (1–3) below with an appropriate semantic type of the meaning that those expressions have in their sentential context.

- (1) Eliza gave the labubu to Shirley.
 - a. Eliza
 - b. the labubu
 - c. gave

- (2) Someone exists.
 - a. someone
 - b. exists
 - c. Someone exists.

- (3) Noone sane would ever consider saying something as silly as that, your honour!
 - a. noone
 - b. silly
 - c. consider

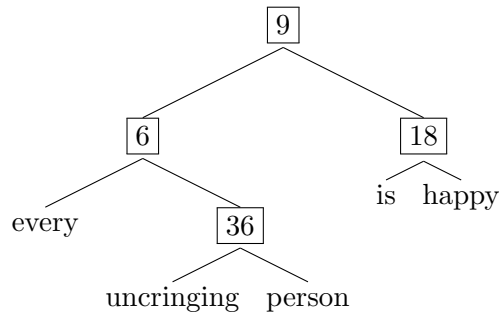
SECTION II

Provide a compositional semantic analysis for the following sentences. Each sentence you analyse ought to be accompanied by a structural representation of its syntactic structure. Provide a compositional analysis of the expressions that demonstrate the Compositionality Principle, i.e. that the meaning of the expression obtains via the compositional steps involved in combining the meanings according to the structure dictated by the syntax. You are highly advised to consult *The Master Cookbook* distributed at the end of the semester. Please ensure that each of the boxed nodes in the provided trees (b) is associated with its own equation, ending in the resulting meaning of that node.

Problem 2.1: Analyse the following sentence, given its corresponding syntactic structure. Demonstrate your compositional-semantic analysis by, first, providing the lexical entries for each of the terminal nodes, followed by the explicit statement of the meanings associated with each of the non-terminal nodes, given in the boxed labels in the tree.

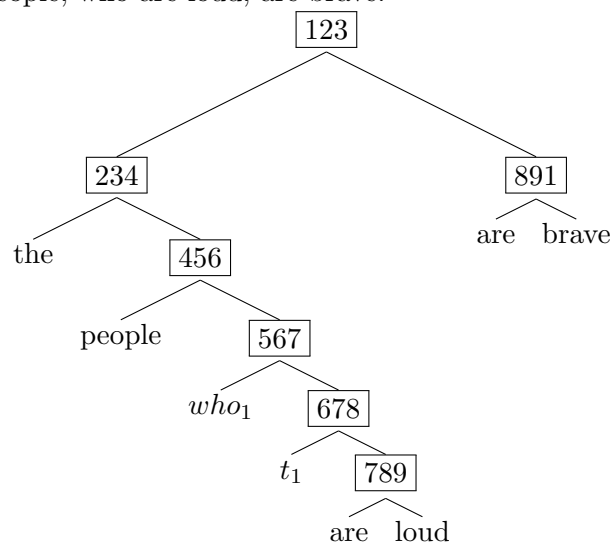
(4) a. Every uncringing person is happy.

b.



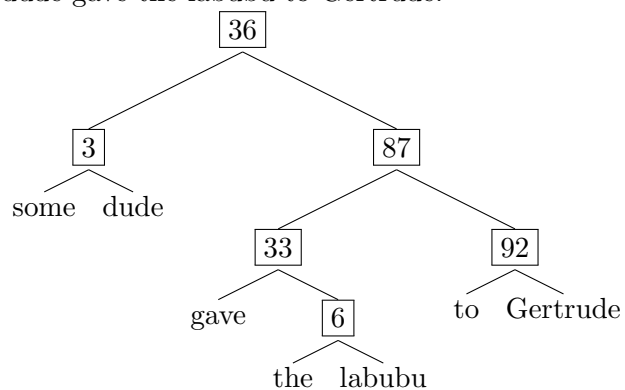
Problem 2.2: Analyse the following sentence, given its corresponding syntactic structure. Demonstrate your compositional-semantic analysis by, first, providing the lexical entries for each of the terminal nodes, followed by the explicit statement of the meanings associated with each of the non-terminal nodes, given in the boxed labels in the tree.

- (5) a. The people, who are loud, are brave.
b.



Problem 2.3: Analyse the following sentence, given its corresponding syntactic structure. Demonstrate your compositional-semantic analysis by, first, providing the lexical entries for each of the terminal nodes, followed by the explicit statement of the meanings associated with each of the non-terminal nodes, given in the boxed labels in the tree.

- (6) a. Some dude gave the labubu to Gertrude.
b.



SECTION III

In no more than 2,000 words, respond to one of the theses stated below.

Problem 3.1: Respond to the following thesis.

- (7) There are no limits to compositional semantics. Discuss.

Problem 3.2: Respond to the following thesis.

- (8) We do not need set theory or any other mathematical mumbo-jumbo to talk about meaning in a meaningful way or, for that matter, construct a theory of meaning. We all know what we mean, after all. Discuss

Problem 3.3: Respond to the following thesis.

- (9) The Buddhist notion of *jijimuge* (9-a) and the general philosophical conception of *advaita* is a challenge for the set-theoretic foundations of our formal semantic theory, provided we consider the building blocks of that theory as reflective of possible meanings that exists. Discuss.
- a. ji- ji- mu ge
thing thing NOT difference
“The radical interconnected of all things: for every x , and every y , while seemingly enumerated as separate, they are interconnected and indistinguishable.”

— END OF PAPER —