

Class 2: Semantic exercises

Instructor: Meaghan Fowlie

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Organisational points

- My email: mfowlie@coli.uni-saarland.de. Please feel free to email me with questions or to set up a meeting with me. If I don't write back within a day, please write again as between me and the email system things sometimes get lost.
- Office hours?
- Course website: <http://meaghanfowlie.com/teaching/synsem.php>
- Rescheduling last class in December

Reading assignment For next class, please read Barbara Partee's (2014) *A brief history of the syntax-semantics interface*, and email me two or three questions about the reading by **noon Thursday**. The questions can be as deep or shallow as you like. The paper is linked on the website.

Exercises Use any semantic representation(s) you're familiar with to do the following:

1. Write or draw a semantic representation of the following:
 - (1) Xander slept
 - (2) Anya loves Xander
 - (3) Buffy wants to kill Spike
2. Make a simple semantic model in which (1) is true and (2) is false.
3. Make a truth table for the following formula of propositional logic:
 $(p \wedge (q \vee (p \wedge \neg q))) \vee \neg q$
4. For each formula of predicate logic, make an English sentence that could have the formula as its meaning.
 - (a) $\forall x(\text{vampire}(x) \Rightarrow \text{dead}(x))$
 - (b) $\forall x((\text{vampire}(x) \wedge \text{dead}(x)) \Rightarrow \text{evil}(x))$
 - (c) $\exists x(\text{vampire}(x) \wedge \text{dead}(x) \wedge \text{evil}(x))$