

## Homework 2 – Syntactic Categories

**A. Kinds of Words: Complete the “Test yourself - Getting Started” exercises in Altenberg & Vago**Lessons 27-32; 38-42 (*all subsections*)**B. The underlined words in each of the following sentence pairs belong to different lexical categories. Identify the lexical category of the underlined word in each of the sentences.**

N: Noun	V: Verb	A: Adjective	ADV: Adverb
CONJ: Conjunction	P: Preposition	D: Determiner	TP: Tense Phrase
NP: Noun Phrase	VP: Verb Phrase	PP: Prepositional Phrase	AP: Adjective Phrase
C: Complementizer	T: Tense	Neg: Negation	

1. It was a cold and dreary day.
2. I can't seem to get rid of my cold.
3. You must dry cilantro leaves before storing.
4. The dry heat of the desert proved to be deadly.
5. There has been some improvement in the past week.
6. In the past, there has not been much improvement.
7. That's a promise.
8. I promise to take you to the zoo tomorrow.

**C. Identify the category of the underlined word in the following sentences (use the abbreviated labels).**

1. My friend went to a rodeo last weekend.
2. I heard that *Toy Story 3* was really good.
3. When are you getting back from the store?

4. She would be so much happier if she would just leave that jerk.
5. The duck-billed platypus is one of the only mammals that lay eggs.
6. Her parents wanted her to get into a good school.
7. There are some amazingly friendly people in this town.
8. Many people are angry with BP about its response to the oil spill.
9. Would you like your eggs scrambled or fried?
10. They bought a brand new leather couch.
11. We decided to take the Holland tunnel although we knew there would be traffic.
12. His mother bragged about his success.
13. She wished she had known of an alternate route.
14. If she had known, she would not have gone that way.
15. Won't you stay a little bit longer?
16. Their friends always RSVP at the last minute.
17. They find their behavior quite rude.
18. She received a message asking her to return the book to the library immediately.
19. I hope they come back tomorrow.
20. She was the one who always listened to weird music.

**D. Identify the category of the underlined phrase in the following sentences (use the abbreviated phrase**

labels).

1. We were in Holland at that time.
2. Our loud neighbors will be away this weekend.
3. The guests ate too much at the reception.
4. Me and my friends play basketball every Saturday.
5. Over the holidays I will be traveling to France.
6. She painted a portrait of her niece from Boston.
7. The experienced chefs complained about the excessively sweet sauce on the duck.
8. The newborn babies cried.
9. The building across the street is Oxley Hall.
10. Which of these contradictory suggestions should the conscientious health nut follow?
11. The twins and their mother got sick from eating the egg salad.
12. Tom's sister is a lawyer.
13. Alex tried all his tricks but nothing worked.
14. The cat on the couch thinks that you are crazy.
15. You have an extremely efficient secretary.
16. The fact that you can whistle better doesn't impress me.
17. You can't expect to get in here without reservations.
18. I strongly refuse to be involved in this.

19. No one except Larry can come up with such strange excuses.

20. Drinking and driving should not be mixed.

**E. Use the constituency tests to identify the underlined phrases. Note: They are ALL Phrases**

1. We went to the store.

2. We went to the store.

3. We went to the store.

4. Herbert H. Lehman was the 45<sup>th</sup> governor of New York from 1933-1942.

5. Franklin Delano Roosevelt was the 44<sup>th</sup> governor of New York from 1928-1933

6. Dewitt Clinton was the 6<sup>th</sup> governor of New York from 1817-1822.

7. Andrew Cuomo is the 56<sup>th</sup> governor of New York, since 2011.

8. The girl broke the glass vase.

9. The girl broke the glass vase.

10. The girl broke the glass vase.

**F. Apply the constituent tests to determine if the underlined expressions in the following sentence are constituents. Write the phrasal category of the constituent if it is a constituent, or write NC: "not a constituent" if it is not.**

1. Many retired workers spend their time on relaxing hobbies.

2. Many retired workers spend their time on relaxing hobbies.

3. Many retired workers spend their time on relaxing hobbies.

4. Chris ate the stale candy.

5. Chris ate the stale candy.

6. My little brother snores.
7. My little brother snores.
8. The clouds rolled across the sky.
9. My aunt crashed our new car.
10. Mattingly hit the ball over the fence.
11. Some students hate computers.
12. The ancient ruins of the temple were covered by earth.
13. The women wept.
14. Too many noisy birds are nesting on campus.
15. Joggers like to run along the river.
16. The bride and groom ran out of the hall.
17. The thieves opened the door with a credit card.
18. The tired teachers had a party.
19. She paid the woman with a twenty dollar bill.
20. A rabid dog on the street scared everyone inside.
21. We drank too much coffee last night.
22. The children ate their dinner quickly.
23. Michael suspects that his wife had an affair.