Problem Set 1

Due August 25 before class. Submit on IVLE > Files > Student Submission > PS1.

A note on judgments: If you are not a native speaker of English, you will want to consult with a friend to ask for their English judgments for this problem set. (Later problem sets will involve less English judgments.)

- 1. Are the sentences in (1) truth-conditionally equivalent? How about the sentences in (2)?
 - (1) a. Dogs have four legs.
 - b. Every dog has four legs.
 - (2) a. Mary eats what John cooks.
 - b. John cooks what Mary eats.

Another way to think about this: Is it possible to construct a model where (a) is true but (b) is false, or (a) is false but (b) is true?

- 2. In each pair of sentences, determine the relationship between A and the B sentences: A presupposes B, A entails B, or no relationship. Support your answer using one or two of the the tests for presupposition vs entailment discussed in class.
 - (3) A. I know that Bill is married.
 - B. Bill is married.
 - (4) A. Alex read the book.
 - B. Alex read some of the book.
 - (5) A. Only Sarah did the homework.
 - B1. Sarah did the homework.
 - B2. John did not do the homework.
- 3. The following sentences are ambiguous. For each sentence, give paraphrases for two different readings. Then, for each paraphrase, describe or illustrate a model that makes that paraphrase true and the other false. If this is not possible, say so.
 - (6) Three students lifted the piano.
 - (7) There is a cat in every box.