

Group work data

Chris Potts, Ling 390a: Controlling the Discourse, Fall 2007

Oct 3

1

- (1a) Sam realized that he couldn't do the homework.
- Sam exists.
 - Sam is a man.
 - A class exists.
 - Sam attends school. (He is a student.)
 - Sam cannot do the homework.
 - ? Sam has homework.
 - Sam once thought he could do the homework.
- (1b) The dog has not eaten her food yet.
- Food exists.
 - A dog exists.
 - The food is intended for the dog.
 - ? The dog intends to eat at some point.
 - ? It's time to feed the dog.
 - The dog is female.
 - ? The speaker humanizes dogs.
- (1c) Since she knew the material already, Ellen stopped attending class in week 3.
- Ellen exists.
 - A class exists.
 - Ellen was in the class.
 - Ellen went to class in weeks 1, 2, and 3.
 - Ellen knows all the material.
 - Ellen is still enrolled.
 - Class is longer than three weeks.
 - ? The class is easy (for Ellen).
 - Ellen is a woman.
- (1) For all three
- We are speaking English.
 - You can hear me.
 - ...

2

Craft a compelling description of the following television set that includes all the features listed for it, but tries to keep (c) in the background (so that it might go unnoticed). The maxim of quality is in effect; no lying!

- (2) Television set
- a. Built-in DVD player.
 - b. 30-inch wide-screen display.
 - c. No volume control.

Bonus points for coming up with a name for this device that reflects all of the above properties but still makes it seem worth buying.

- (3) The Tranquility™ Combination TV and DVD player
Turn every DVD into a meaningful experience with this high-quality 30-inch set. Built-in DVD player and innovative technology mean that you'll never adjust the volume. The only TV that *encourages* family conversation. Make TV time quality time again. Will have you lip-reading in less than a week!
- (4) Mind-blowing 30-inch wide-screen display. New Monophonic™ technology leaves the hassle of volume adjustment to the set itself. Don't have cable? Just sit back and enjoy silent movies on the built-in DVD player.
- (5) Enjoy NFL Sunday now with your new 30-inch LCD flat screen TV with built in DVD and HD/DVD. The clearest head-thumping audio brought to you by our patented Concussion™ audio system. With its pre-optimized volume setting, you'll have no choice but to hear every bone-crunching hit.

For a real estate ad, craft a compelling description of the following house that includes all the features listed for it, but tries to keep (c) in the background (so that it might go unnoticed). The maxim of quality is in effect; no lying!

- (6) House in Amherst
- a. Newly remodeled kitchen.
 - b. Large working fireplace.
 - c. Adjacent to Lambda Epsilon Omega fraternity house.

- (7) Lovely Amherst home with a newly remodeled kitchen. Located next to Lambda Epsilon Omega, a community-based charity organization, this house boasts a large working fireplace, three bedrooms, and spacious grounds.

Craft a compelling description of the following proposed legislation that includes all information listed for it, but tries to keep (c) in the background (so that it might go unnoticed). The maxim of quality is in effect; no lying!

- (8) Proposed legislation
- a. Free tuition for all UMass Amherst students who are residents of Massachusetts.
 - b. No increase in taxes to people earning less than \$250,000 per year; .01% increase for people earning \$250,000 or more.
 - c. On-campus housing costs \$60,000 per year.

Bonus points for coming up with a name for this piece of legislation that reflects all of the above properties but still makes it seem worth endorsing.

- (9) Under the proposed legislation, residents of Massachusetts would receive free tuition with no tax increase for people earning less than \$250,000 per year. (A miniscule increase applies to those making over \$250,000 per year.) On-campus housing would be paid in six convenient payments of just \$10,000 each.
- (10) Free tuition! Hardly any tax increases for the vast majority of Commonwealth residents! New apartment-style housing — experience the excitement for just \$60,000 per year!