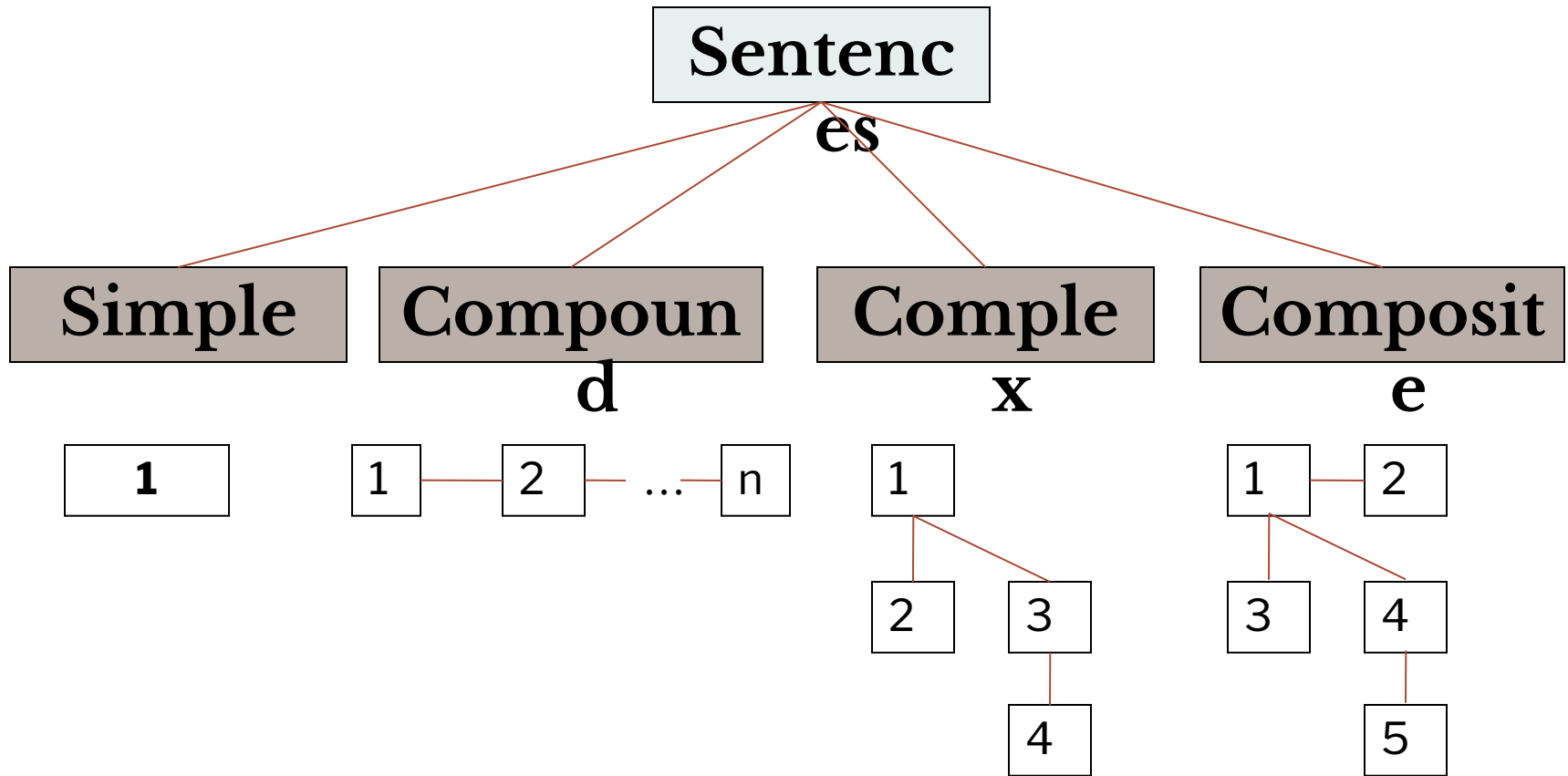


The Syntactical Analysis of an English Sentence

Objectives:

- to raise awareness of the syntactical structure of the English sentence;
- to discuss the classification of English sentences;
- to discuss the classification of English predicates;
- to focus attention on the following syntactical peculiarities:
 - the attributive clauses in the English sentence.
 - the type of the predicate having the structure “to be + Participle II”.
 - the use of adverbs in the function of the adverbial modifier of degree.
 - the syntactical peculiarity of the verb “to be”.
 - the real subject introduced by the introductory subject “it”.
 - the syntactical functions of the “For-to-Infinitive Construction”.
 - the compound verbal modal predicate in sentences containing the “Subjective Infinitive Construction”.

THE CLASSIFICATION OF ENGLISH SENTENCES



He recounted stories of the success which Mrs. George Osborne had had in former days at Brussels, and in London, where she was much admired by people of very great fashion; and he then hinted how becoming it would be for Jos to send Georgy to a good school and make a man of him; for his mother and his parents would

SCHEME

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A:

success

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A: London

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6

Attributiv
e Relative
Restrictiv
e Clause

Attributive
Relative
Non-Restri
ctive Clause

The Structures with the Real Subject Introduced by the Introductory Subject “It”

To observe the child was curious.

It is typical of English to introduce the subject of a sentence with the help of formal “It”.

It is better to say:

It was curious to observe the child.

Examples:

To lie is a bad thing. – It is a bad thing to lie.

To ride with a drunk driver is dangerous. – It is dangerous to ride with a drunk driver.

The Analysis of the Predicate Having the Structure “to be + Participle II”

The Simple Verbal Predicate

- Expresses an action
- Is expressed by ONE verb in the Passive Voice form

The letter was dispatched by one of the messengers.

It was done within an hour.

When I arrived the food had already been served.

The Compound Nominal Predicate

- Expresses a state, a quality, class-belonging of the subject
- Consists of the link verb “to be” and the predicative

The courtyard is railed like a cage. (state)

He entered and said, “The food is served”. (state)

He is tired. (state)

She is clever. (quality)

We are students. (class-belonging)

1. He recounted stories of the success

and

4. he then hinted

which

how

2. which Mrs. George Osborne had had in former days at Brussels, and in London

Object Clause

5. how becoming it would be for Jos to send Georgy to a good school and make a man of him

for

6. his mother and his parents would be sure to spoil him.

where

3. she was much admired by people of very great fashion

Attributive Relative Restrictive Clause

Attributive Relative Non-Restrictive Clause

THE CLASSIFICATION OF ENGLISH PREDICATES

Simple

Compound

- Is expressed by **ONE** verb in the *synthetical* form (I **love** you) or *analytical* one (I **have**

Compound Nominal

link verb + predicative

- Expresses the state of the subject (I am tired), its quality (She is clever), class-belonging (We are students)

Compound Verbal

Modal

I can swim.

We are obliged to read it.

He is sure to come.

Aspect

It	began	raining.
	continued	
	stopped	