

**Study Guide for Chapter 7, pp. 141-163 from Smith-Cairns.**

constituent	structural ambiguity	local structural ambiguity
global structural ambiguity	garden path sentence	minimal attachment
late closure	parser	parsing/sentence processing
modular theory of sentence processing		
interactive theory of sentence processing		

With regard to Chapter 7, you should be able to do/answer the following:

- 1) Given two phrase structure trees, figure out which one follows minimal attachment and which one does not.
- 2) Given two phrase structure trees, figure out which one follows late closure and which one does not.
- 3) For both (1) and (2), be able to indicate which phrase structure tree is associated with which meaning of the sentence.
- 4) Describe the characteristics of a modular system:
  - a. What does it mean to say that language as a whole is modular? Give two examples that support the idea that language is modular (these were covered in class only, but they are described in your book on p. 3: Williams Syndrome and SLI).
  - b. What does it mean to say that the processing levels within language are modular?
- 5) Given an ambiguous sentence, with each interpretation represented by a phrase structure tree, be able to describe how a modular theory of sentence processing would have the sentence be processed by the human parser. Would one structure be parsed first? Why or why not?
- 6) Given an ambiguous sentence, with each interpretation represented by a phrase structure tree, be able to describe how an interactive theory of sentence processing would have the sentence be processed by the human parser. Would one structure be parsed first? Why or why not?
- 7) How do perceptual displacement studies show that clauses are psychologically real units?
- 8) What does it mean to say that sentences are processed incrementally?