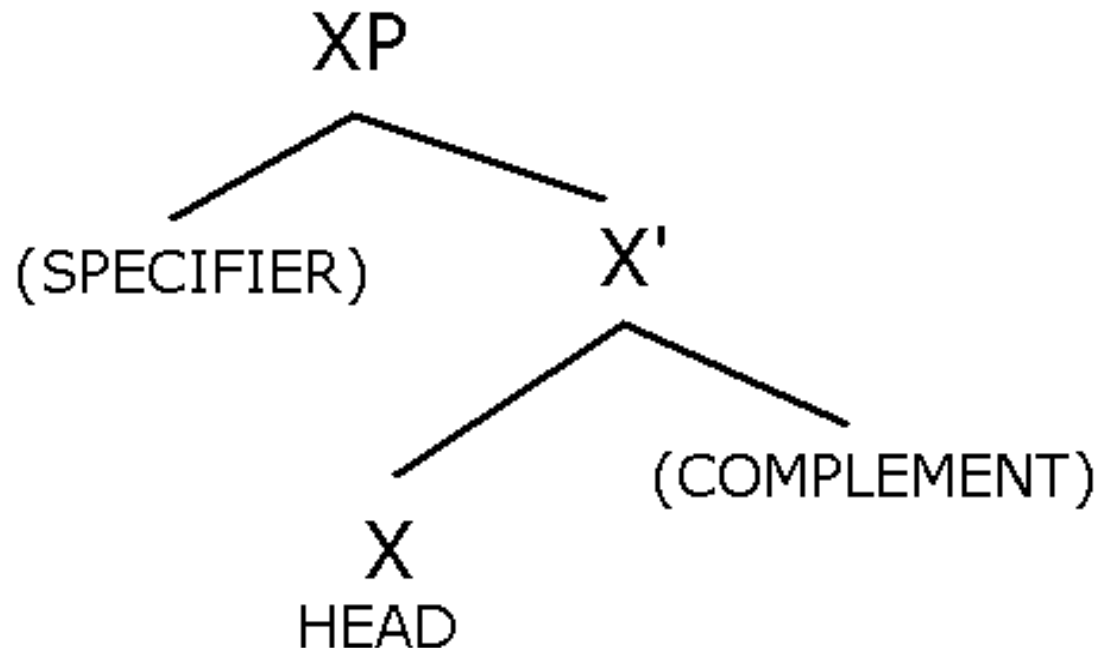- **Answers to practice X' trees**
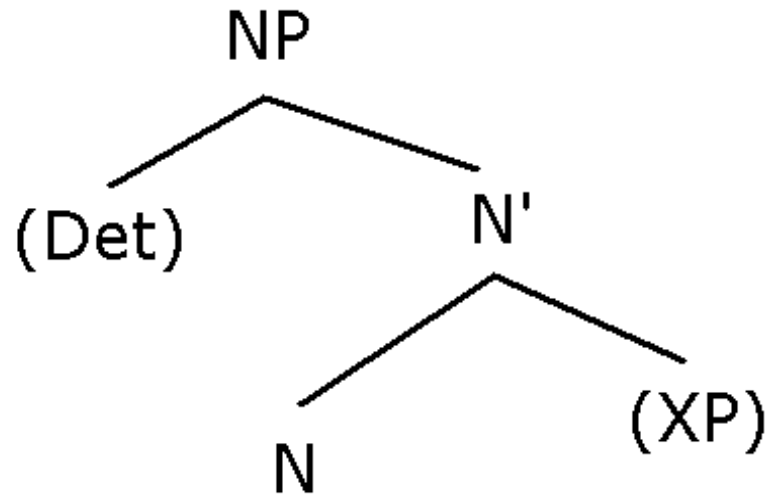
- The **X' schema** is a blueprint for sentence structure in our model of mental grammar

  - An element in parentheses (...) is **optional**

- **NP:**

- Some examples to try
    rabbits
    these rabbits
    the child's rabbits

Practice building NPs

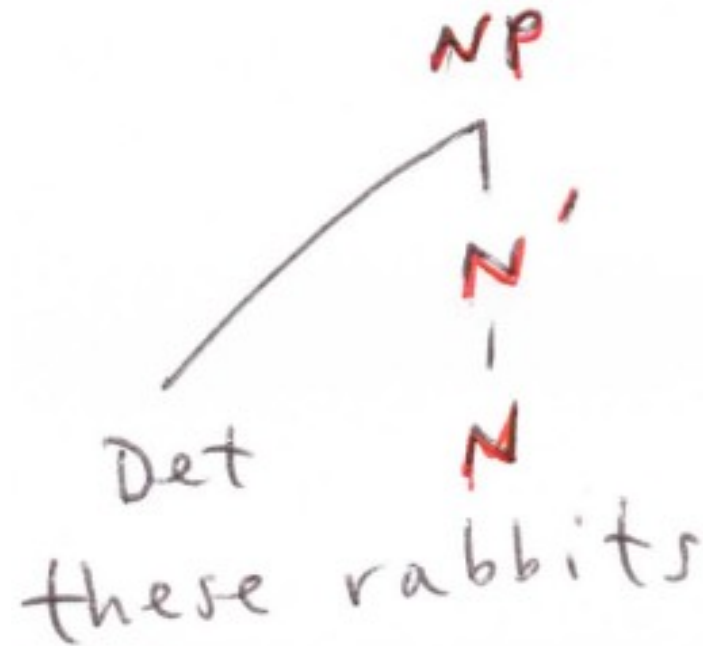- Remember: Identify all word categories first

rabbits   these rabbits

- Every N will project an N' and NP

N
rabbits

Det   N
these rabbits

- Det is a possible specifier for NP

Practice building NPs

- Identify all word categories first

the child's rabbits
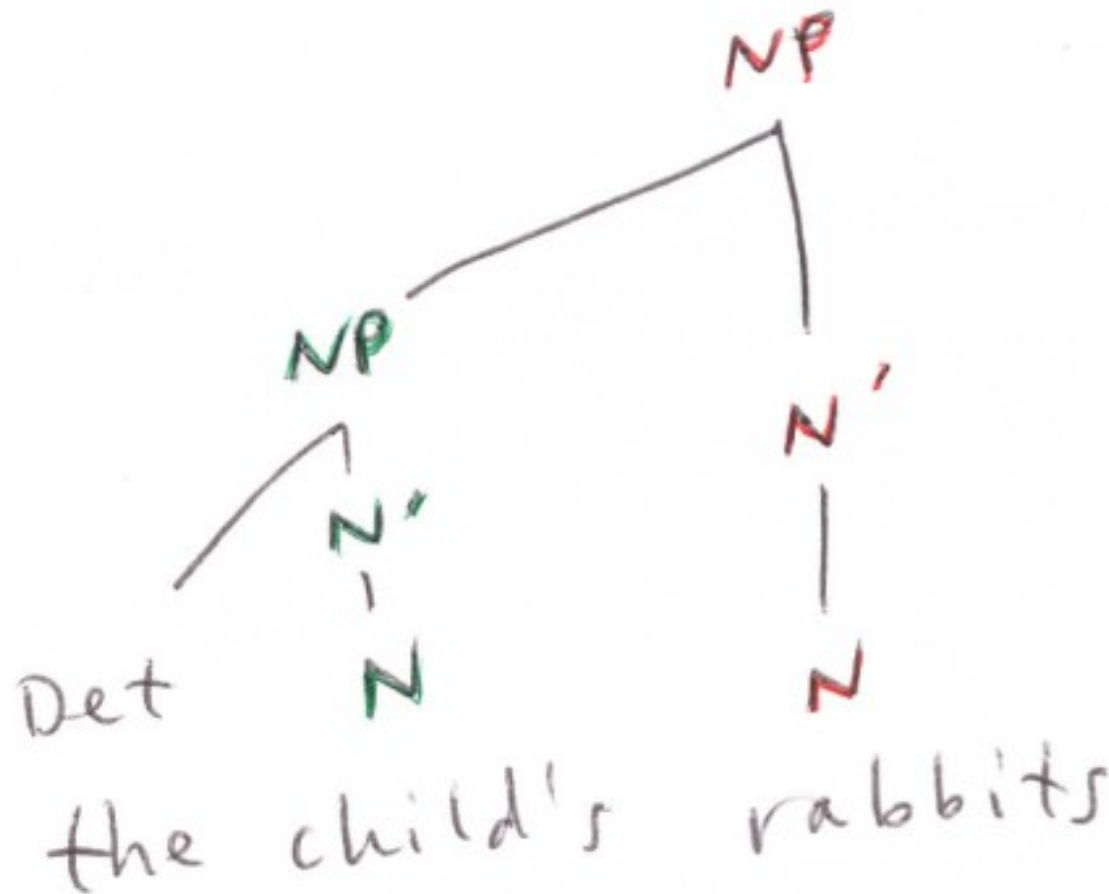
Practice building NPs

- There are two Ns here, so we must build two NPs
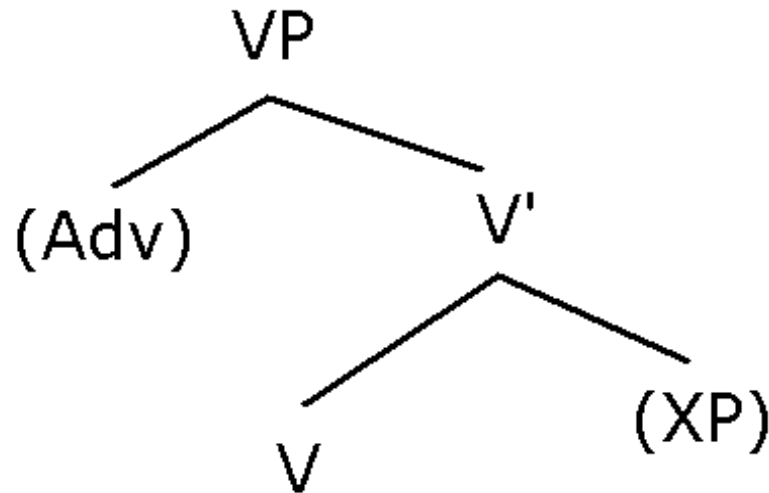
Det   N   N

the child's   rabbits

Practice building NPs

- Possessors are NPs that are specifiers of NPs

Practice building VPs

- **VP:**

  - Adv = adverb (*always, never, happily,* etc.)

- Some examples to try
    (Oscar) yawned
    (Grover) always smiles
    (Susan) read a book
    (Ernie) usually annoys Bert

Practice building VPs

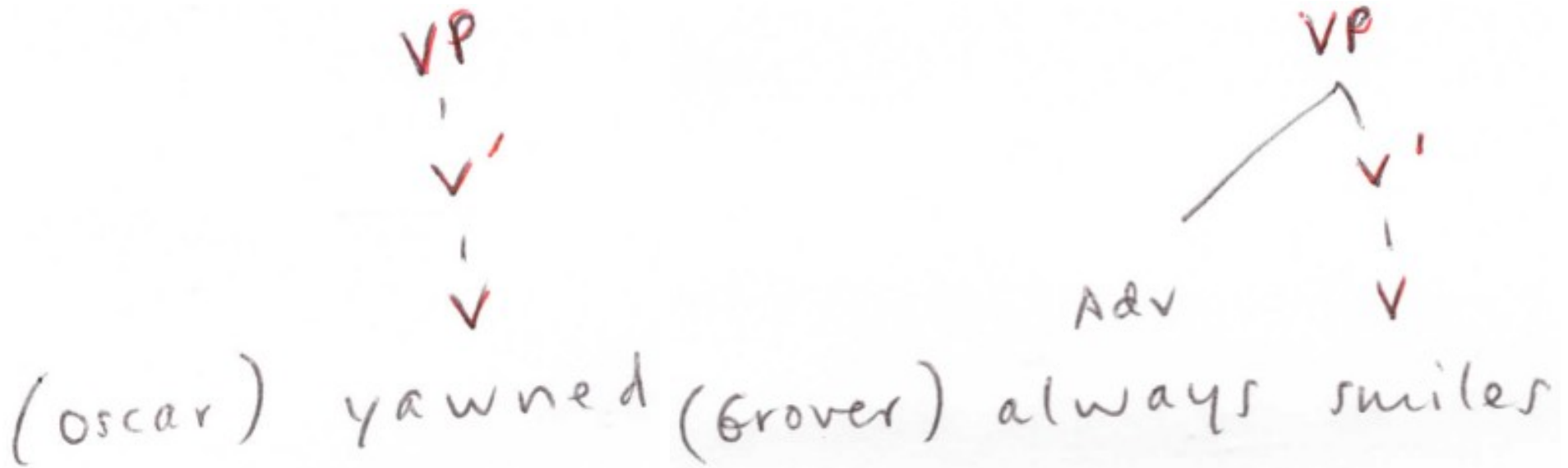- Identify all word categories first

(oscar) yawned (Grover) always smiles

Practice building VPs

- Look for possible specifiers and complements

(Oscar) yawned (Grover) always smiles

Practice building VPs

- Adv is a possible specifier for VP

VP
|
V'
|
V

(oscar) yawned

VP
/ \
Adv V'
| |
always V

(Grover) smiles

- Identify all word categories first

(susan) read a book (Ernie) usually annoys Bert

Practice building VPs

- Look for possible specifiers and complements

$$\text{(susan)} \quad \overset{V}{\text{read}} \quad \overset{Det}{a} \quad \overset{N}{\text{book}} \quad \text{(Ernie)} \quad \overset{Adv}{\text{usually}} \quad \overset{V}{\text{annoys}} \quad \overset{N}{\text{Bert}}$$

- Direct objects are NP complements of VP
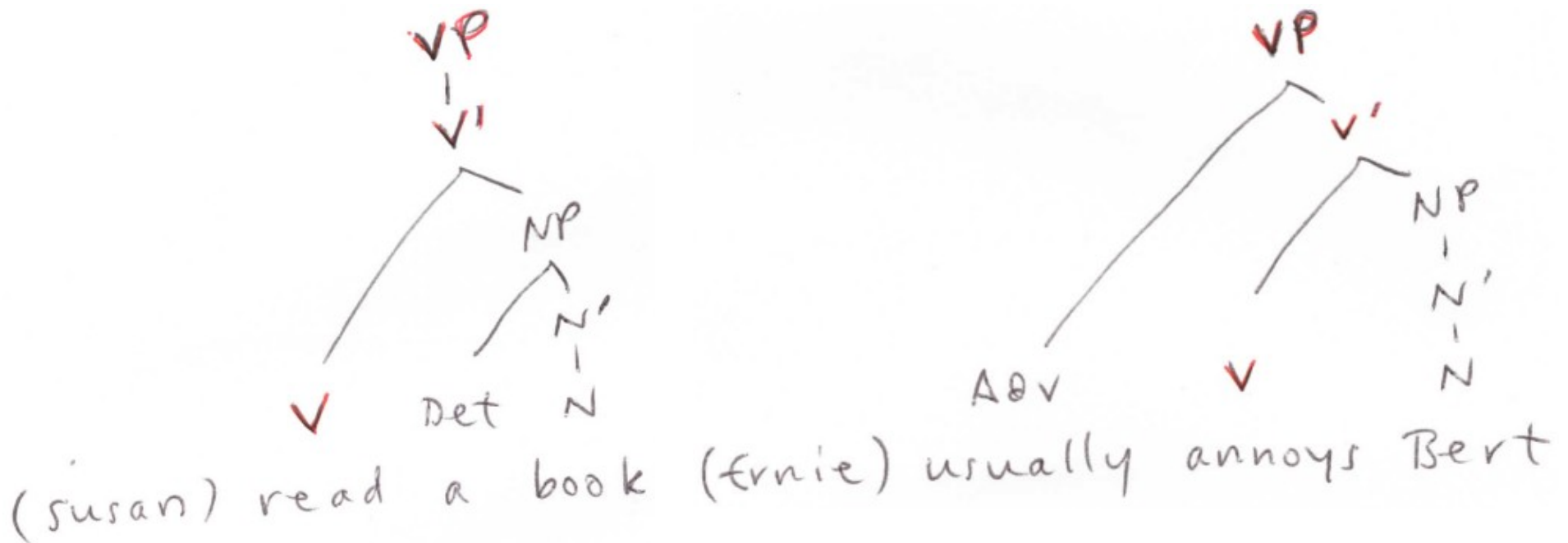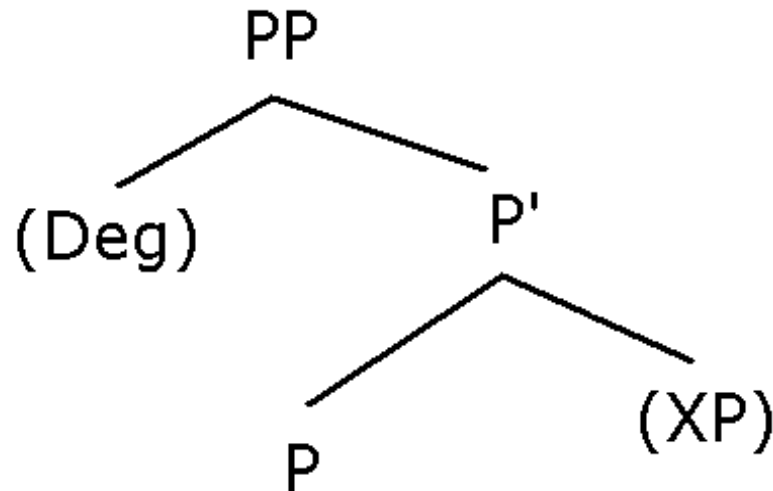

Remember: *Bert* must be an NP, not just an N
- All Ns project NPs
- Complements are phrases, not words

- **PP:**

- Deg = degree word (*right,* certain adverbs)

- Some examples to try
  (Oscar went) out
  (Susan put the basketball) right in
  (a book) about rabbits
  (a liking) for truffles from France

Practice building PPs

- Identify all word categories first

(Oscar went) out (susan put the b.ball) right in
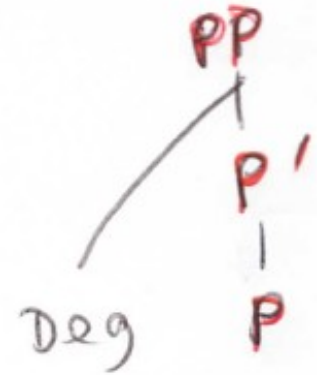
- Look for possible specifiers and complements

$$\text{(Oscar went) } \overset{\text{P}}{\text{out}} \text{ (Susan put the b.ball) } \overset{\text{Deg}}{\text{right}} \overset{\text{P}}{\text{in}}$$

- Remember: Complement is optional for PP!

PP
|
P'
|
P

(Oscar went) out (susan put the b.ball) right in

PP
P'
|
Deg   P

Practice building PPs

- Identify all word categories first
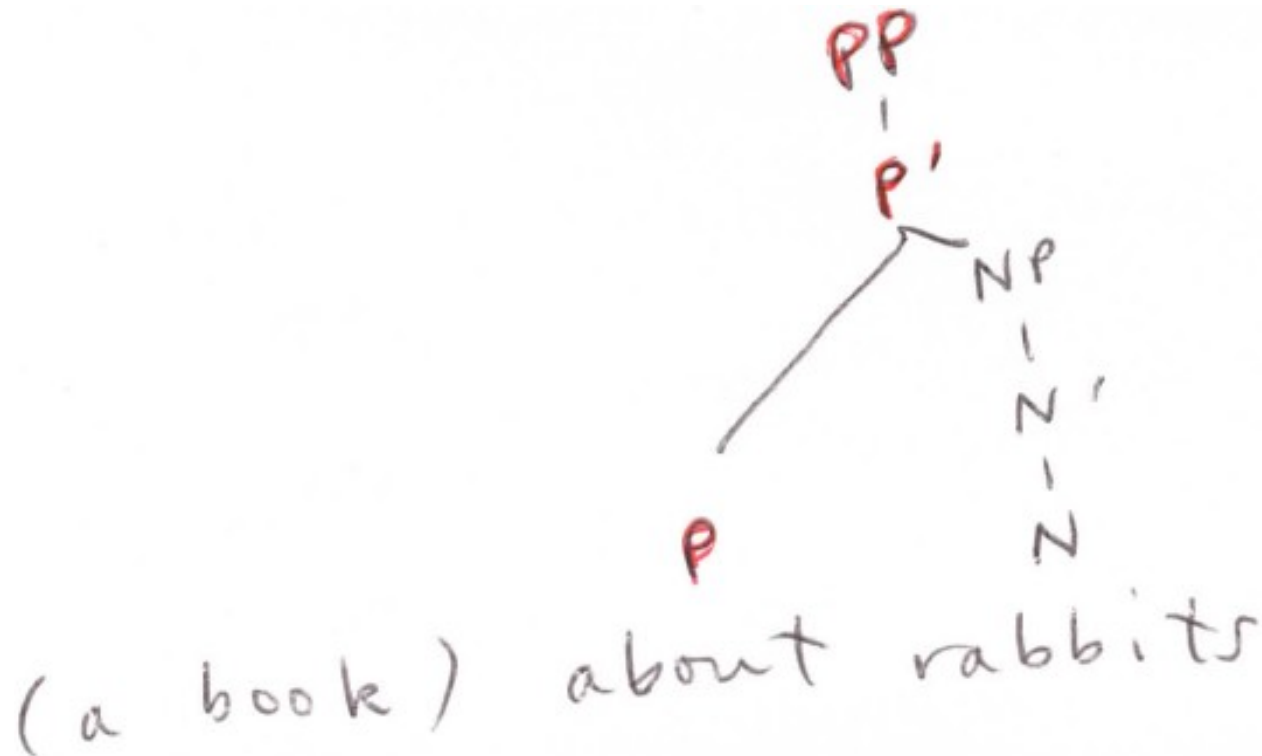
(a book) about rabbits

Practice building PPs

- Look for possible specifiers and complements

$$(a\ book)\ \overset{P}{about}\ \overset{N}{rabbits}$$

- Prepositional objects are NP complements of PP

- Remember that *rabbits* has to be an NP!

- What should we do first?

(a liking) for truffles from France

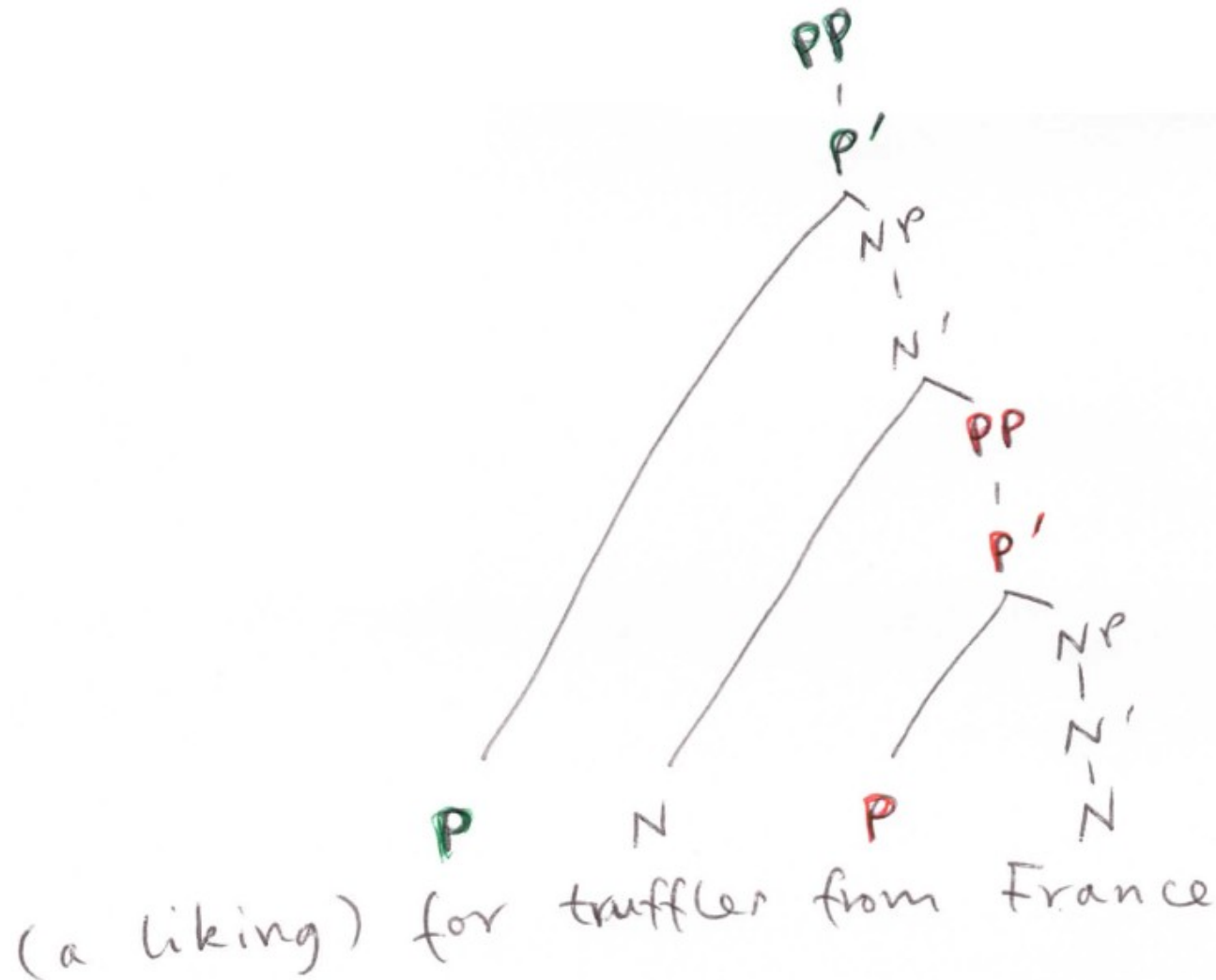- It is often helpful to work from the right side

P   N   P   N

(a liking) for truffles from France

Practice building PPs

- Note how *from France* is about *truffles* here

Practice building APs

- **AP:**

AP
/ \
(Deg)   A'
        / \
       A   (XP)
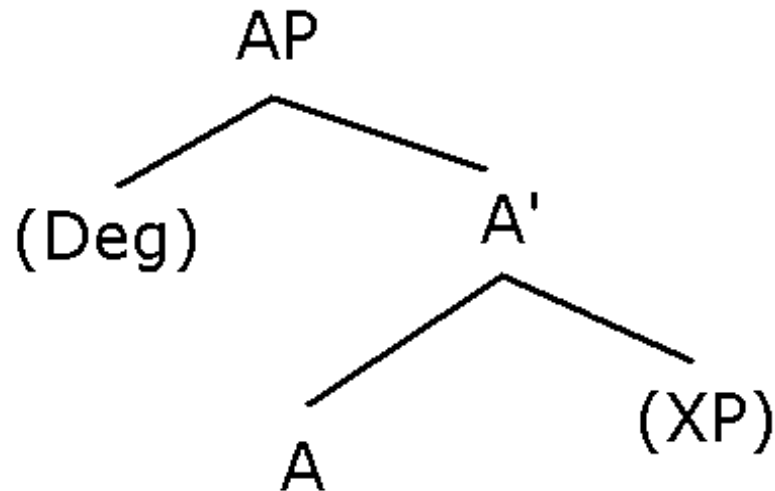
- Some examples to try
  happy
  very angry
  pleased with the results
  fond of her dog

- What should we do first?

happy   very angry

- What should we look for now?

- Deg is a possible specifier for AP

AP
|
A′
|
A
happy

AP
Deg   A′
very |
        A
        angry

Practice building APs

- What should we do first?
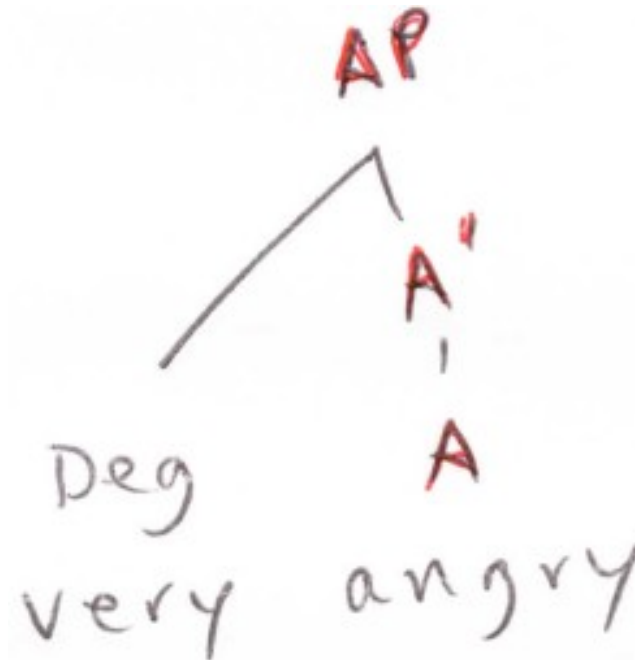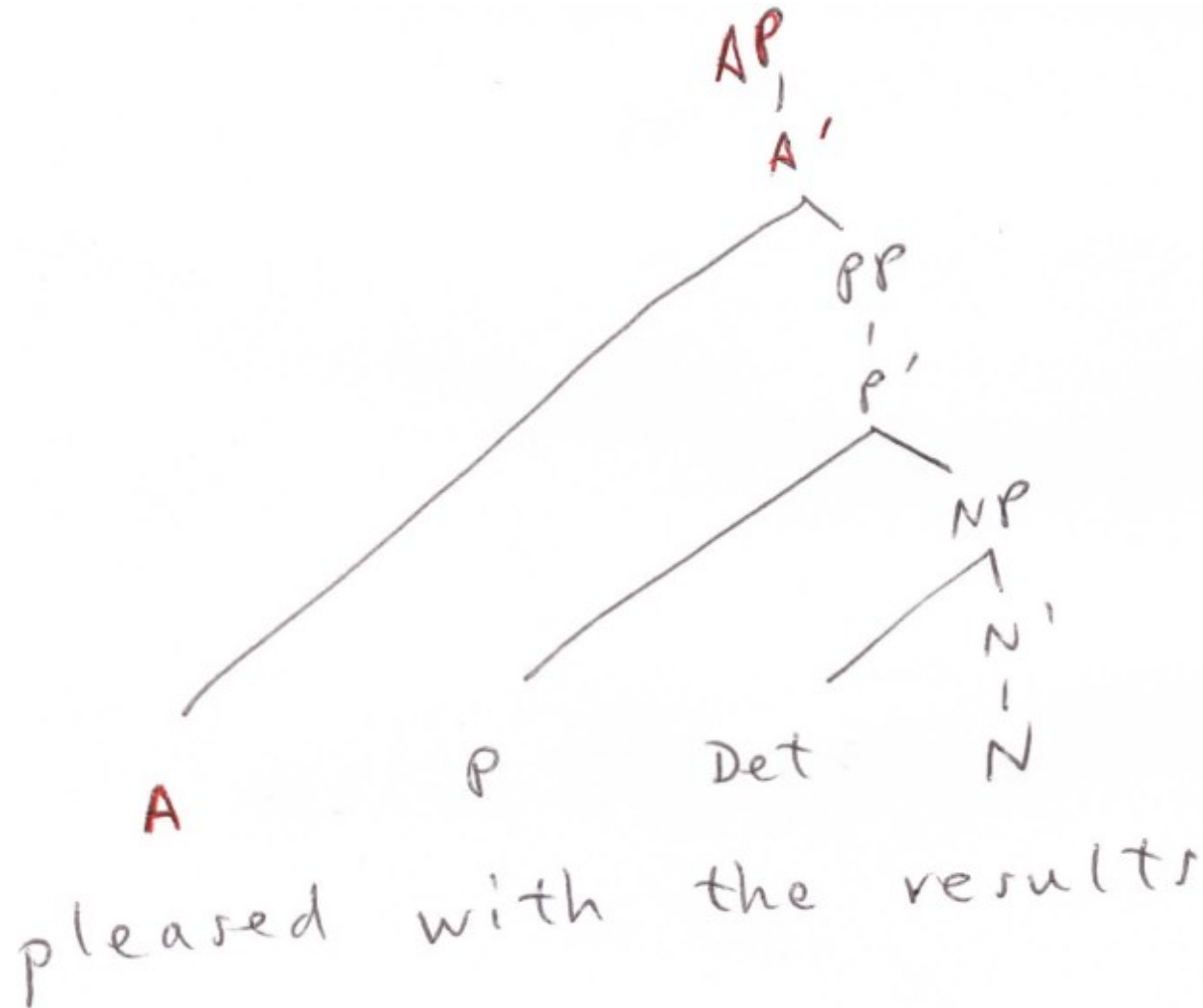
- Working from the right side will help here

A   P   Det   N

pleased   with   the   results

Practice building APs

- When AP has a complement, it's usually a PP

Practice building APs

- What should we do first?

fond of her dog

Practice building APs

- What should we do next?

A   P   N   N

fond of her dog

- Watch out for the possessive!