W Please drive me to the Hawthorns development in Sawston.
S What is the address?
W Oh, I don’t know. ▶How stupid I am!
S OK, let me set google map to Sawston. And you search online the place.
... S Oh, I saw a Hill AD. It must be nearby. ▶Hill is the developer.
...
W Oh, I found the postcode — CB22 3LH!
...
OFFICE CLOSED!

Lecture 5: From Concepts to Indices
1. From nouns to objects
2. From verbs to events
3. Superpower from structures
From Nouns to Objects
How can pupils find their own rucksacks?

tag/name them
Proper noun phrases

Sky News Breakfast: Tough questions on PPE, Putin and Partygate

- Sky
- Sky News
- Sky News Breakfast
- Putin
- Partygate?

▷ BBC
▷ BBC News
▷ BBC Breakfast
▷ Boris Johnson

02/02/2022
But there are too many rucksacks... 

Enumerate them

(1) a. Elizabeth I
   b. Elizabeth II
   c. George VI

Point to them: Pronoun

(2) a. Come and look at this.
   b. That’s a very good idea.
   c. Can I have one of these?

- Proper nouns and pronouns, by name, are nouns.
- So do nouns directly link to objects?
London Will See Two Trumps: The President and a Balloon Parody

Londoners will get to see two versions of Donald Trump next week: the 45th president of the U.S. and a 20-foot-high inflatable version that’s orange and wearing a diaper.

news from www.bloombergquint.com
How can pupils find their own rucksacks?

*bucket them*
The meaning of Trump in Two Trumps
Build a bucket and then point

Bucketing with nouns

Pointing with determiners

(3) a. What’s in this box?
    b. I might get myself a pair of those shoes.
Londoners will get to see two versions of Donald Trump next week: the 45th president of the United States and a 20-foot-high inflatable version that is orange and wearing a nappy.

Mr Trump will be in the city for a meeting with […]

[…] Trump Baby will fly!

[…] In a crowdfunding request, they wrote that they want the balloon to shadow the president, “haunting the skies — and hopefully the dreams — of the stain on the office of President that is Donald Trump Senior.”

The White House has brushed aside questions about protests during Mr Trump’s trip.

[…]
Build a fancy bucket

The news

Londoners will get to see two versions of Donald Trump next week: the 45th president of the United States and a 20-foot-high inflatable version that is orange and wearing a nappy.

Mr Trump will be in the city for a meeting with […]

[…] Trump Baby will fly!

[…] In a crowdfunding request, they wrote that they want the balloon to shadow the president, “haunting the skies — and hopefully the dreams — of the stain on the office of President that is Donald Trump Senior.”

The White House has brushed aside questions about protests during Mr Trump’s trip.

[…]
Build a fancy bucket

(4) a. the 45th president of the United States
   b. a 20-foot-high inflatable version that is orange and wearing a nappy

\[ \text{DET} + \text{modifiers} + \text{NOUN} + \text{modifiers} \]

Database and SQL

SELECT * FROM Mayors
WHERE Country='UK' AND City='Cambridge';
Syntax for building buckets

Syntactico-semantic composition

More on modification in Lecture 7
Well done! Let’s have some coffee and cake.
Well done! Let’s have some **coffee** and **cake**.

**Piece of Cake!**
One-bowl, no-fuss, from-scratch cakes

Camilla V. Saulsbury
Easy as a mix, but homemade

**oops! mass nouns and more...**
Individualisation: *cutting* objects from space

Find a container

(5) a. a *cup* of coffee
   b. a *glass* of water

Cut your cake

(6) a *piece* of cake
Hypothesis: All Mandarin nouns are mass nouns

- 一辆汽车 (yī liàng qì chē) - a car
- 一面镜子 (yī miàn jìng zǐ) - a mirror
- 一朵花 (yī duǒ huā) - a flower
- 一把椅子 (yī bǎ yǐ zǐ) - a chair
- 一张桌子 (yī zhāng zhuō zǐ) - a table
- 一支笔 (yī zhī bǐ) - a pen
- 一位客人 (yī wèi kè rén) - a guest
- 一头猪 (yī tóu zhū) - a pig
- 一架飞机 (yī jià fēi jī) - a plane
- 一列火车 (yī liè huǒ chē) - a train
- 一艘船 (yī sōu chuán) - a boat
- 一枚火箭 (yī méi huǒ jiàn) - a rocket
Well done! Let’s go to a party!
Well done! Let’s go to a party!

Oops! Nouns go to events

**Party**: a social **event** at which a group of people meet to . . .

from Cambridge Dictionary
Well done! Let’s go to a party!

Oops! Nouns go to events

Party: a social event at which a group of people meet to . . .

from Cambridge Dictionary

Quite often

Partygate is an ongoing political scandal surrounding gatherings of United Kingdom government and Conservative Party staff . . .

[. . .], a political scandal is an action or event regarded as morally or legally wrong and causing general public outrage.

from Wikipedia
From Verbs To Events
Cutting events from time

WN S: (n) event (something that happens at a given place and time)
Telicity: Where to cut?

**Progressive**

+ **Inherent endpoint**: accomplishments
  - draw a circle
  - run a mile
  - write a letter

− **Inherent endpoint**: activities
  - run, walk, sleep, chat
  - push a cart

− **Progressive**

+ **Instantaneous/punctual**: achievements
  - reach (the hilltop)
  - find (him), see (him)

− **Instantaneous/punctual**: states (do not involve change)
  - hate, believe, know, be red
Telicity: Where to cut?

+ Progressive
  + Inherent endpoint: accomplishments
    • draw a circle
    • run a mile
    • write a letter
  − Inherent endpoint: activities
    • run, walk, sleep, chat
    • push a cart

− Progressive
  + Instantaneous/punctual: achievements
    • reach (the hilltop)
    • find (him), see (him)
  − Instantaneous/punctual: states (do not involve change)
    • hate, believe, know, be red

Vendler classes
Semelfactives

Vendler classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Telic</th>
<th>Atelic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Periods</strong></td>
<td>Accomplishments (run a mile)</td>
<td>Activities (push the cart)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Instants</strong></td>
<td>Achievements (spot the plane)</td>
<td>States (know the answer)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Semelfactives

*blink, sneeze, knock, jump, tap, flap, flash, beep...*

Different views, e.g. Bach (1986)

- telic and instantaneous
- a subtype of achievements
Linguistic relativity
How to identify semelfactives?

*touch* and *kick*

Some languages have special morphological marking:
- Russian: -nu
  - xixi-nu-t
  - 'to make a single giggle'

Some languages, e.g. English, don't.

For languages that don't mark semelfactives, it is very important to distinguish conceptual and linguistic argument.
How to identify semelfactives?

*touch* and *kick*

Some languages have special morphological marking

- **Russian**: -nu
- xixi-nu-t
- ‘to make a single giggle’

Some languages, e.g. *English*, don’t

For languages that don’t mark semelfactives, it is very important to distinguish conceptual and linguistic argument.

slides based on Dun Deng
Verbal classifiers in Mandarin
下, 遍, 趟, 回, 次, 顿, 通, 场, 番, 记...

Mandarin semelfactives
The verbal classifier 下 picks out semelfactive events
• 眼睛/eye 眨/wink 了/Perf. 三/three 下/time
• ‘The eye made three single winks.’
• 手指/finger 敲/knock 了/Perf. 三/three 下/time
• ‘made three single knocks with the finger (on the table)’

Mandarin achievements
死/die, 贏/win, 进/enter, 到/reach, 倒/fall...
• 贏/win 了/Perf. 三/three *下/次/time
• ‘win three times’

Unlike English, there is linguistic evidence to distinguish the two kinds of verbs in Mandarin.
Time

- Speech time
- Event time
- Reference time

Roughly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>E,R,S</th>
<th>Sam is working.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S – E,R</td>
<td>Sam will work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E,R – S</td>
<td>Sam worked.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E – R – S</td>
<td>Sam had worked.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S – E – R</td>
<td>Sam will have worked.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R – E – S</td>
<td>Sam would work.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Prelecture exercise

Howard: Something doesn’t make sense. Look. In 2015 Biff steals the Sports Almanac and takes the time machine back to 1955 to give it to his younger self. But as soon as he does that he changes the future, so the 2015 he returns to would be a different 2015. Not the 2015 that Marty and Doc were in.

Leonard: This is Hot Tub Time Machine all over again. Look. If future Biff goes back to 2015 right after he gives young Biff the Almanac, he could get back to the 2015 with Marty and Doc in it. Because it wasn’t until his 21st birthday that 1955 Biff placed his first bet.

Sheldon: Is placed the right tense for something that would’ve happened in the future of a past that was affected by something from the future?

Leonard: Had will have placed?
Modality

Is it possible to anchor events without a reference to time?
Modality

Is it possible to anchor events without a reference to time?
Modality

Is it possible to anchor events without a reference to time?

When we talk about likelihood, permission, obligation, and ability

- *can, could, shall, should, will, would, may, might, must*
- *ought, have to, be obliged to, be able to, be capable of, it’s possible that, it’s necessary for * to, it’s obligatory to, it’s permissible that, possibly, necessarily, maybe, perhaps...*
Superpower from Structures
Words can mean so many different things, but structures cannot.

(7)  a. stone
    b. three stones
    c. much stone
    d. to stone a bird
    e. be stoned
Reading