

**March 18, 2008**

1.

- (a) It's been an amazing year for Crystal Palace over the past 12 months
- (b) The robbery was committed by a pair of identical twins, both are said to be about age 20.
- (c) Send in your competition answers with your name, age and how old you are.
- (d) So you're a housewife and a mother. Do you have any children?

2.

- (a) My mother is a woman.
- (b) My mother is a doctor.
- (c) The tiger is unhappy.
- (d) The tiger is an animal.
- (e) My mother is a boy.
- (f) The tiger is a reptile.

3.

- 1(a) Annie caught a trout.
- 1(b) Annie caught a fish.

- 2(a) Annie is thin.
- 2(b) Annie is not fat.

- 3(a) Annie baked a cake.
- 3(b) Annie baked something.

4.

- 1(a) Goldilocks saw a bear.
- 1(b) Goldilocks saw an animal.

- 2(a) This porridge is too cold.
- 2(b) this porridge is not too hot.

- 3(a) Baby Bear cried.
- 3(b) Baby Bear wept.

- 4(a) Mama Bear is in front of Papa Bear.
- 4(b) Papa Bear is behind Mama Bear.

5.



(c) Tom sold a computer to Mark.

(d) My brother repaired my car.

10.

Write three analytic sentences, e.g. My mother is a woman. For each sentence, think of a context where the utterance of that apparently 'uninformative' sentence would be quite informative to the hearer.

11.

Write three analytic sentences, e.g. My mother is a woman. For each sentence, think of a context where the utterance of that apparently 'uninformative' sentence would be quite informative to the hearer.

12.

(a) All creatures are imperfect beasts. Man alone is the perfect beast.

(b) The brain of a woman is almost as heavy as a human brain.

(c) A coroner's duty is to decide whether a person died a fatal death.

(d) We do not have censorship. What we have is a limitation on what newspapers can report.

(e) Snakes are two sexes, poisonous and non-poisonous.

(f) I have reiterated over and over again what I have said before.

13.

Look at these pairs of utterances. The sentences being uttered in each pair are arguably semantic paraphrases of each other (in a relationship of mutual entailment). Do you think they communicate the same information?

1(a) That food was delicious.

1(b) That grub was yummy.

2(a) She designs clothes for adult male humans.

2(b) She designs clothes for men.

3(a) That guy's a bachelor.

3(b) That guy never got married.

14.

We noticed that heavy stress on a word can be used to foreground a particular entailment. Certain kinds of sentence structure can also do this and are particularly useful in written language where stress is not available. The second sentence here is called a CLEFT SENTENCE:

- (a) The PAINTERS broke the window. (spoken)
- (b) It was the painters who broke the window. (written)

When the cleft construction is used in spoken language combined with heavy stress, some interesting meaning differences can emerge. Compare:

- (c) It wasn't ME who burnt the toast.
- (d) It WASN'T me who burnt the toast.

15.

“... the entailments of a sentence can be regarded as those propositions that can be inferred from it in any context’ (my underlining, Simpson, 1993: 122). What problems, if any, are posed for this definition by a sentence like *George saw a nut?*