Classwork N°.1
due to 24 February 2012

1. Some semantic phenomena (Quantifiers, Anaphora)

   Question: What do you observe in the following sentences? Do you find some double readings from one sentence?

   (1) Every man loves a woman.

   (2) Every car has a radio.

   (3) John loves golf, and Mary too.

Answer: If we look at the first sentence (1), then we see that it has two readings.
   1. There is one woman who is loved by every man.
   2. For each man there is one woman whom he loves.

These correspond to distinct situations (or possible worlds) that make the sentence true.

For the second example (2) we only get one reading: the analogue of 2. The reason for this lies not in the logical structure of the sentence, but in concepts involved. We interpret the meaning of the word has as the relation "has as physical part", which in our world carries a certain uniqueness condition: If a is a physical part of b, then it cannot be a physical part of c, unless b is a physical part of c or vice versa. This makes the structurally possible analogue to 1 impossible in our world and we discard it.

   (3) who does what? John loves golf and loved Mary. And John loves golf and Mary loves golf too.

2. Basic notions: **Function** and **argument**

   Question: Translate, as precisely as possible, the following fragments into the function and argument structure. Remind you the concepts of *operator/operand, complete/incomplete* expression and that of *categoreme/syncategoreme* expression.

   # Convention: **(Operator(Oprerand))**

   (4) The author of The American Way of Eating

                      (the((of(the ((of eating) (american way))))author))

(5) She knows her way around a kitchen.

          ((knows((around (a kitchen))(her way)))she)

(6) The produce management is so sloppy

          ((is (so sloppy))(the(produce management)))

(7) She is gloomily aware.

          ((is (gloomily aware))she)

(8) I watch an endless assembly line.

          ((watch(an(endless(assembly line))))I)