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24.973 Advanced Semantics
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5/6/09 TA Session Tue Trinh 24.073

Two kinds of third reading examples

- (1) Mary wants to buy a [hat of mine]
mary want₀ [λ_2 mary buy₂ a [hat of mine]₀]
(i) \llbracket [hat of mine]₁ $\rrbracket^g = \{a, b, c\}$
(ii) $\forall w'$ compatible with what mary wants in w_0 , $\exists x \in \{a, b, c\}$ such that mary buys x in w'
- (2) Mary wants to buy a [hat like mine]
mary want₀ [λ_2 mary buy₂ a [hat like mine]₀]
(i) \llbracket [hat like mine]₁ $\rrbracket^g = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$
(ii) $\forall w'$ compatible with what mary wants in w_0 , $\exists x \in \{a, b, c, d, e\}$ such that mary buys x in w'

→ Schwagger shows us a situation where (2) is predicted to be false, but felt to be true

- (3) a. I have a red hat
b. red hats = $\{a, b, c\}$
b. Mary says: 'I want to buy a red hat, any will do'
→ predicted: \llbracket Mary wants to buy a hat like mine $\rrbracket = 0$
- (4) Proof:
 \llbracket Mary wants to buy a hat like mine $\rrbracket = 1$ iff
 $\forall w' \in \text{want}(w_0)(\text{mary})$. $\exists x \in \{a, b, c\}$ such that mary buys x in w'
→ Suppose d is a red hat in w_7 and mary buys only d in w_7 . Then $w_7 \in \text{want}(w_0)(\text{mary})$, but there is no $x \in \{a, b, c\}$ such that mary buys x in w_7
- (5) More detailed analysis of [hat like mine]
mary want₀ λ_2 mary buy₂ a [hat₂ like₂ [the hat₀ that I have₀]]
 \llbracket Mary wants to buy a hat like mine $\rrbracket = 1$ iff
 $\forall w' \in \text{want}(w_0)(\text{mary})$. $\exists x$ s.t. in w' , x has the same color as the hat I have in w_0 & mary buys x in w'
- (6) Dubai Tower Problem
 λ_1 mary want₁ λ_2 mary buy₂ a [building with 192 floors]₁
→ ...
- (7) Orcutt example
Ralph thinks that ortcutt is a spy, and Ralph doesn't think that ortcutt is a spy
- (8) Kaplanian approach
 $\exists f. f(w_1) = \text{ortcutt} \ \& \ \text{ralph think}_1 \ \lambda_2 \ \alpha(w_2) \in \text{spy}_2$
→ vividness...
→ $f(w) =$ the shorstest spy in w
→ $f(w) =$ the person John is looking at in w