HG2002: Tutorial 7
Context and Inference

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1. What are the deictic words/phrases in the following sentences? Identify each one as **space/time/person/social** or some combination of them.

   (1) *They tried to hurt me, but he came to the rescue.*

   (2) *The shop is across the street.*

   (3) *She was sitting over there.*

   (4) *It is raining out now, but I hope when you read this it will be sunny.*

   (5) *I was born in London and I have lived there all my life.*

   (6) *Wilt thou not listen to me?*

2. Describe the features used in your own language's pronoun system, with examples. (e.g. for Modern English: person, number, gender)

3. Give two examples each of **metonymy** and **synecdoche**.

4. Explain what is going on here
   (from *The Pink Panther Strikes Again (1976)*)

   Clouseau: Does your dog bite?

   Hotel Clerk: No.

   Clouseau: [bowing down to pet the dog] Nice doggie.
   [Dog barks and bites Clouseau in the hand]

   Clouseau: I thought you said your dog did not bite!

   Hotel Clerk: That is not my dog.

5. Hedges are used when you know you will flout a maxim. Which maxim is flouted in the following hedges (and why)?:

   (7) *This may be a bit confused, but I remember being in a car.*

   (8) *I may be mistaken, but I thought I saw a wedding ring on her finger.*

   (9) *I won't bore you with all the details, but it was an exciting trip.*

   (10) *I don't know if this is important, but some of the files are missing.*

   (11) *As far as I know, they're married.*

   (12) *This may sound like a dumb question, but whose handwriting is this?*

   (13) *I don't know if this is clear at all, but I think the other car was reversing.*

   (14) *As you probably know, I am afraid of dogs.*

6. In the text you are annotating for project one try to find examples of different kinds of reference:

PRONOUN: Pronominal reference	*I saw a dog. <u>It</u> bit me.*
BRIDGE: Bridging reference	*I saw a dog. <u>The owner</u> was cute.*
DEFINITE: Reference with an NP	*I saw a dog. <u>The animal</u> bit me.*

Email the examples you found to your tutor, in the following format at least 24 hours before the tutorial.

SID: sentence
ROLE: NP: target (just enough to identify it:
it may come from a previous sentence)

For example:

11934: If he did not take immediate action, surely the string would split in half at the middle, and he would fall.
PRONOUN: he: Kandata
DEFINITE: the string: the thinly shining spider's thread