

Lecture 19

English 3318: Studies in English Grammar

Finite Verb Clauses I – Part II **Adjective clauses**

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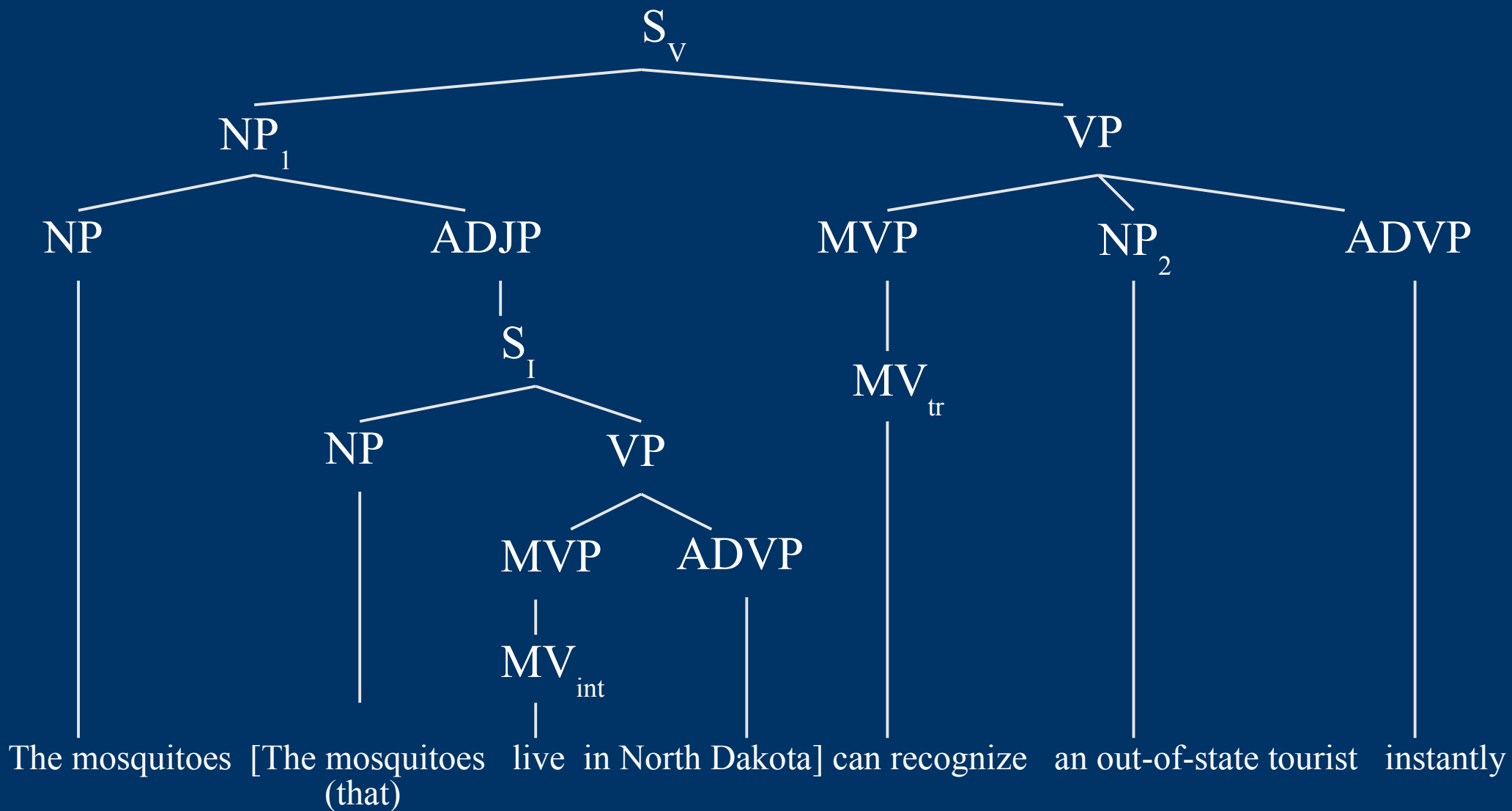
Objectives

- Distinguish between subordinate and relative dependent clauses
 - Identify whether a dependent clause is functioning as an adverbial or adjectival modifiers
 - Recognize a relative clause as either restrictive or nonrestrictive
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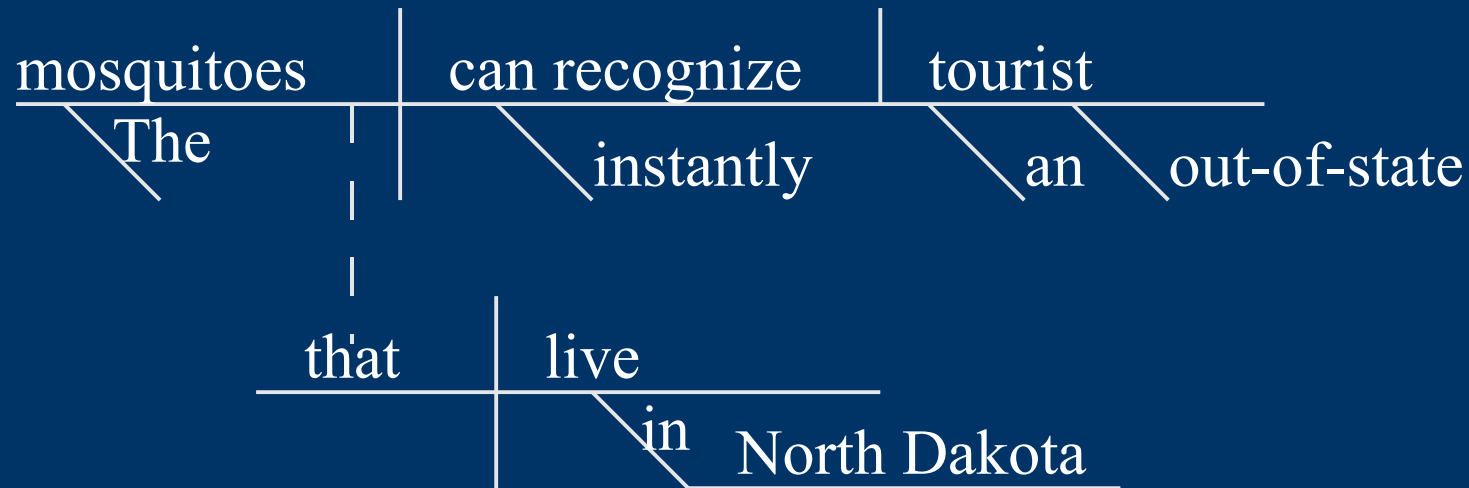
Function of a Relative Pronoun

- The repeated noun phrase (the one that becomes a relative pronoun) can be
 - a subject
 - It is easier to push today's manual lawn mowers, *which* usually weigh 20 pounds less than earlier models.
 - an object
 - The government cannot prohibit the expression of ideas *that* it finds offensive.
 - a determiner (a possessive noun)
 - The election victory went to Markley, *whose* quiet manner pleased the voters (Markley's quiet manner)
 - an object of the preposition
 - The committee asked him many questions to which he had no answer.
 - The committee asked him many questions which he had no answer to.
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Diagramming Relative Clauses



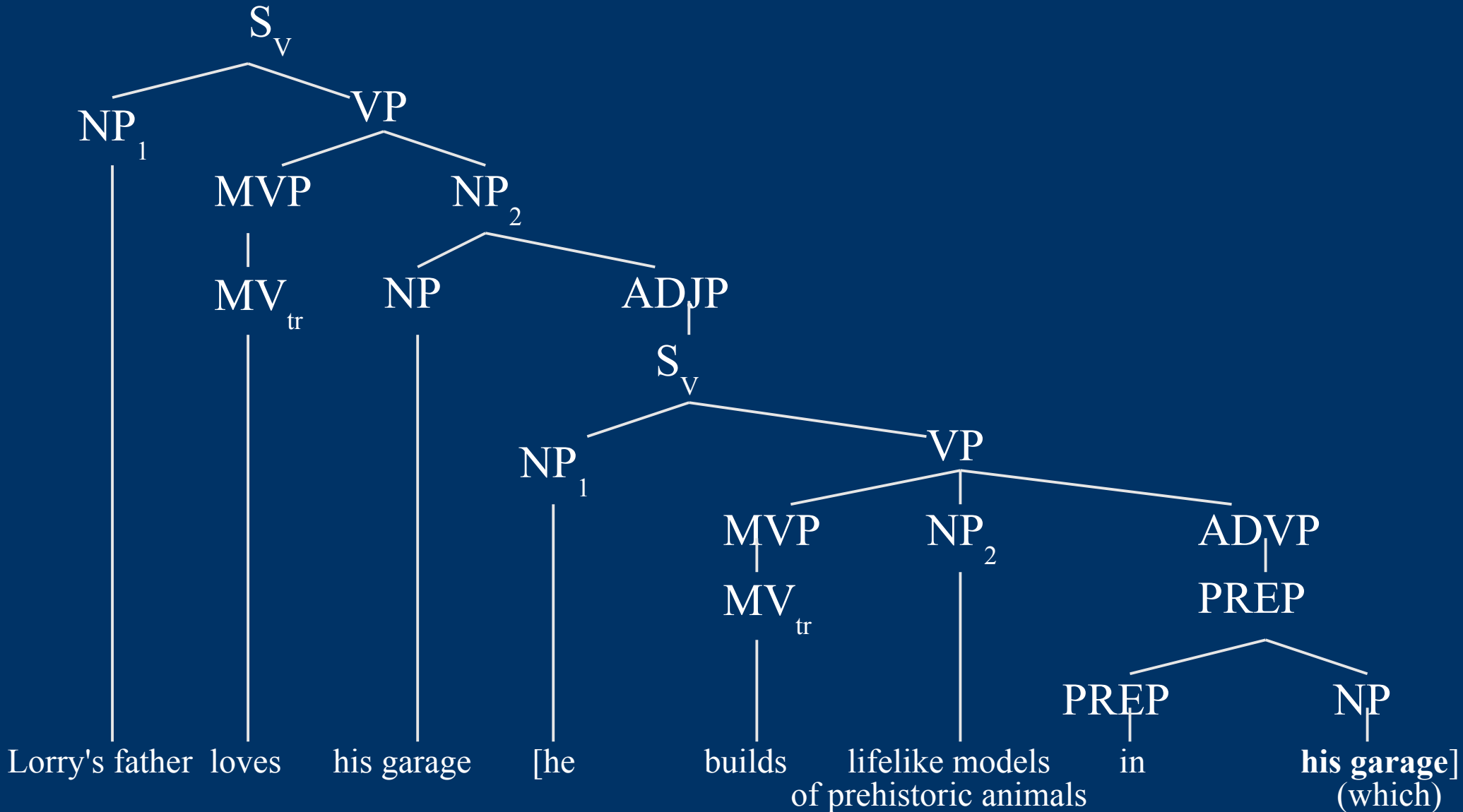
Diagramming Relative Clauses



- Reed-Kellogg diagrams do not show as much of underlying structure of relative clauses as phrase markers do
- The relative clause is represented in its own sentence diagram
 - the relative pronoun appears in its appropriate position
 - a broken line links the relative pronoun with the noun phrase to which it refers

Diagramming Relative Clauses

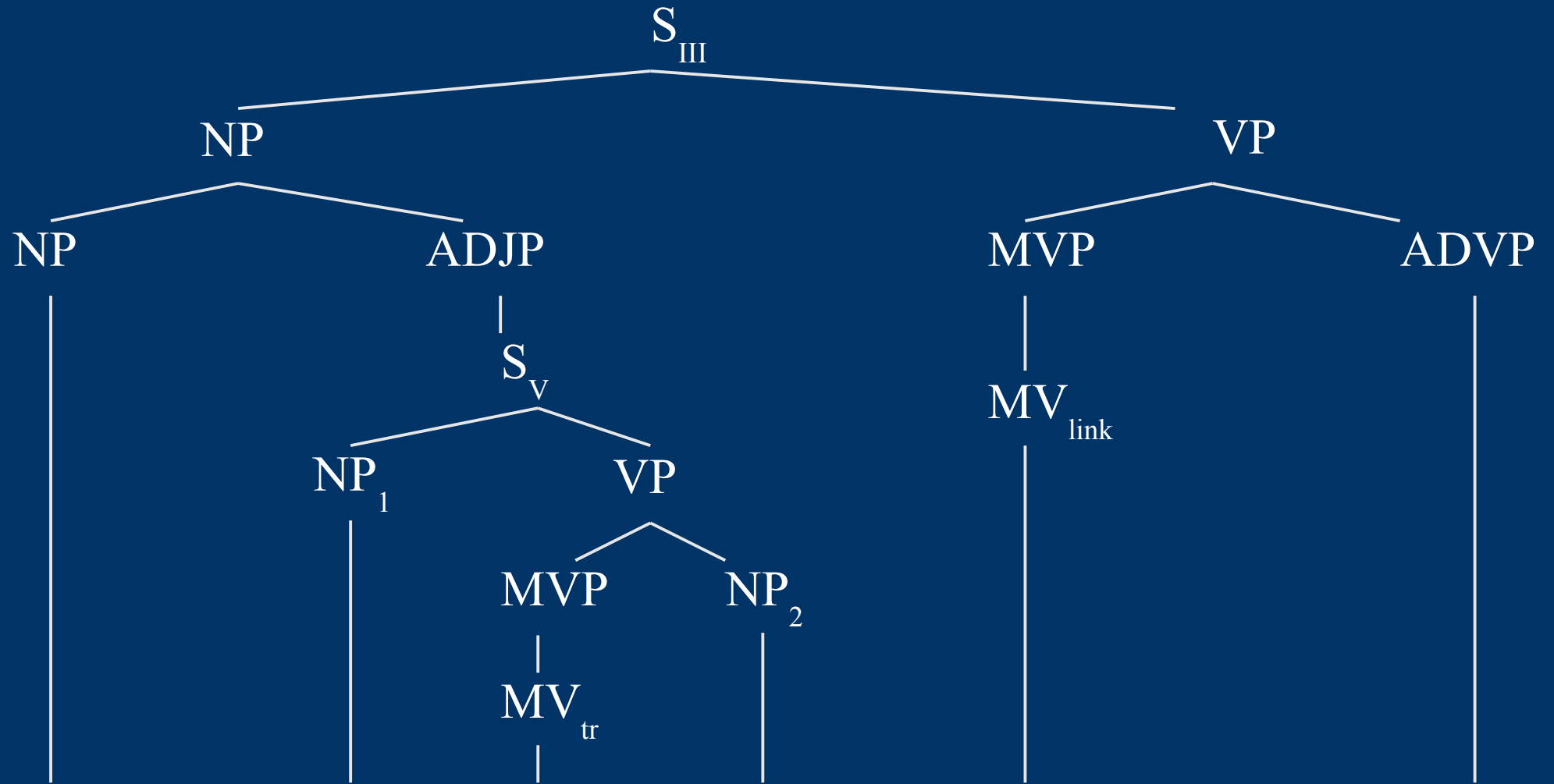
The relative pronoun within a prepositional phrase.



The Omission of Relative Pronouns

- In deciding between *who* and *whom* as a relative pronoun it is easier to omit it, leaving the rest clause in place
 - This is the man *whom my son works for*.
 - This is the man *my son works for*. (is a relative clause)
 - We can omit *that* pronoun as well
 - The computer *that you ordered* is extremely expensive.
 - The computer *you ordered* is extremely expensive.
 - No one believes the story *that he told* about being given a ride in a spaceship.
 - No one believes the story *he told* about being given a ride in a spaceship.
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Tree Diagram



The computer [you requested ~~the computer~~] is extremely expensive
that (that)

↑



Relative Adverbs

- Relatives clauses can be also introduced by relative adverbs expressing
 - time (when)
 - place (where)
 - reason (why)
 - Relative adverb functions like relative pronoun
 - refers to a preceding noun phrase
 - introduces a relative clause that modifies the noun
 - The difference between a relative pronoun and a relative adverb
 - relative pronoun substitutes for a repetition of the antecedent noun or pronoun
 - relative adverb substitutes for an adverbial modifier (prepositional phrase) which contains a repeated noun
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Examples

- Both of the examples represent adjectival clauses.

↓ This is the house + I was talking about *the house*

↓ This is the house + I was talking about *that*

↓ This is the house *that I was talking about*

- relative pronoun (that)

↓ This is the house + Elvis lived in *the house*

↓ This is the house + Elvis lived *where*

↓ This is the house *where Elvis lived*

- relative pronoun

- Both relative clauses identifies which house is being referred to – both are adjectival
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Examples

Name a day + You will have some free time *on some day*



Name a day + you will have some free time *when*



Name a day *when you will have some free time*

- *when* (relative adverb)
 - replaces *on some day* (the adverbial phrase)
 - creates the relative clause *when you will have some free time*
 - refers to the noun *day* which is entire relative clause modifies



Example

There is no reason + We shouldn't eat this cake *for some reason*

↓
There is no reason + We shouldn't eat this cake *why*

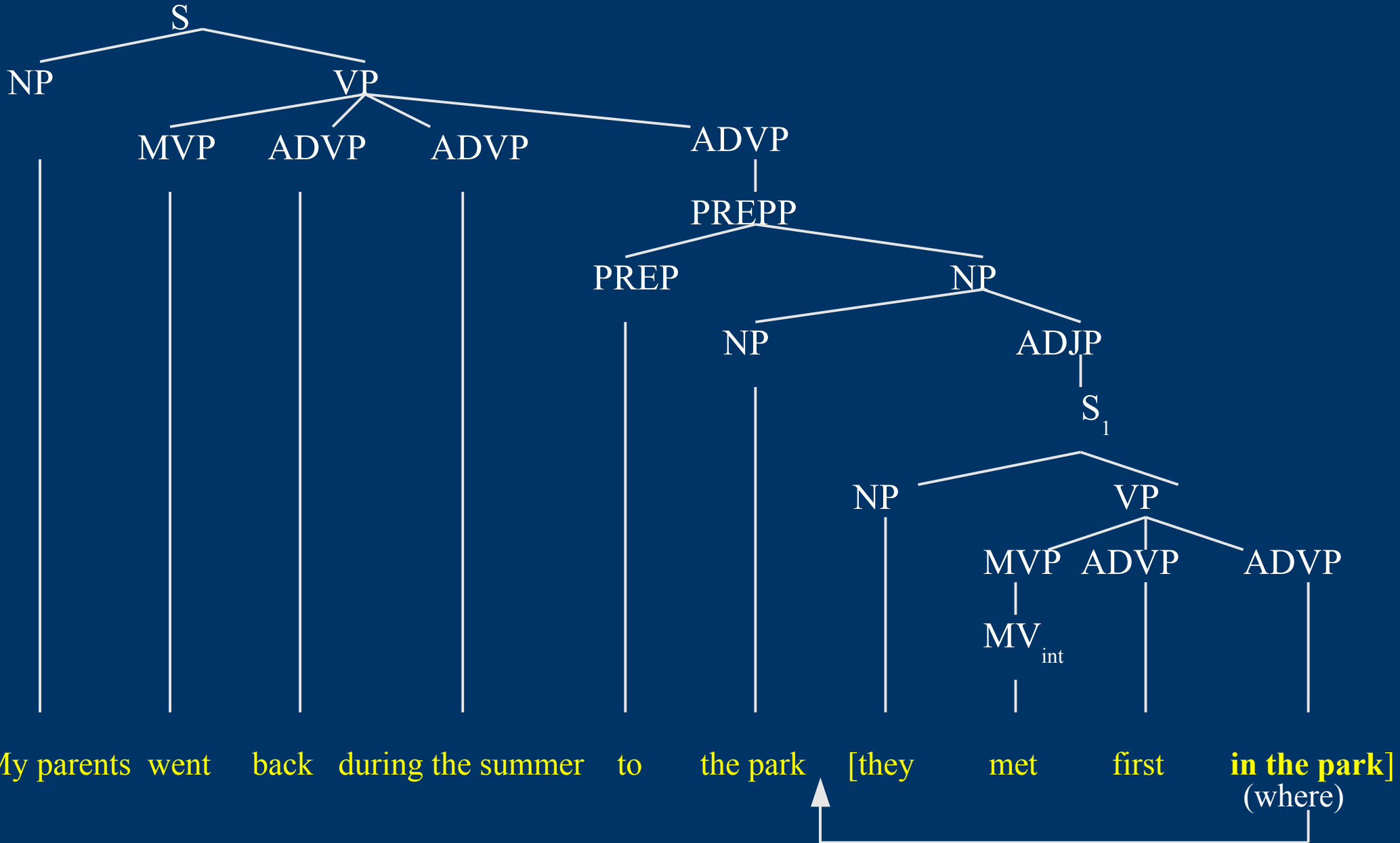
↓
There is no reason *why* we shouldn't eat this cake

- *why* (relative adverb) replaces *for some reason* (the adverbial phrase)
- moves to the front of its clause
- immediately follows antecedent – *reason* – the noun that the clause modifies

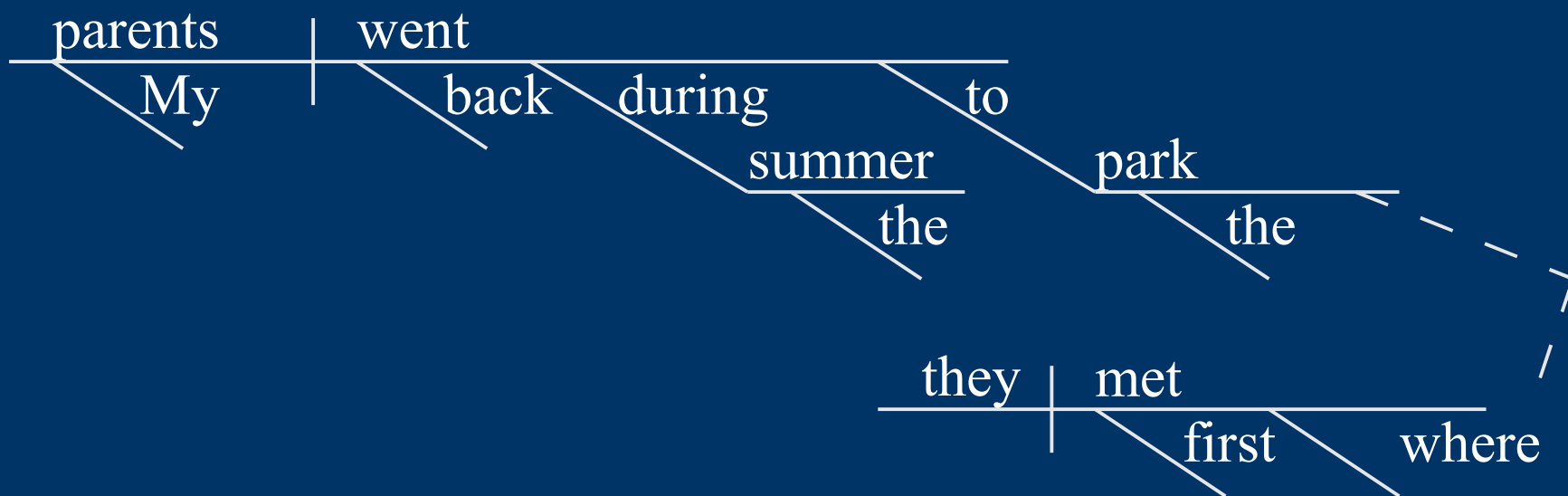
There is no reason *we shouldn't eat this cake*

– relative adverbs and pronouns can be deleted

Diagramming Relative Clauses



Reed-Kellogg Diagram



My parents went back during the summer to the park where they met first.

Relative adverb *where* modifies the verb *met* within the relative clause (*where they met*), while the entire relative clause functions adjectivally as a modifier of *park* within the main clause.

Relative Clauses Contrasted with Adverbial Subordinate Clauses

- *When* and *where* can be
 - relative adverbs
 - subordinating conjunctions
 - Sentences look identical if taken out of the sentences in which they occur.
 - *Gabriel anticipated a time* + (relative clause) *when he could forget the army.*
 - *Gabriel relaxed thoroughly* + (adverbial subordinate clause) *when he could forget the army.*
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Relative Clauses Contrasted with Adverbial Subordinate Clauses

- **Gabriel anticipated a time** + (relative clause) *when he could forget the army*.
 - *when* is a relative adverb – it refers to the preceding noun *time*
 - the relative clause *when he could forget the army* – modifies *time* (telling which time Gabriel longed for)
 - **Gabriel relaxed thoroughly** + (adverbial subordinate clause) *when he could forget the army*.
 - subordinate clause *when he could forget the army* – begins with subordinator *when*
 - the clause functions as an adverbial modifier of *relaxed* (telling when Gabriel could relax thoroughly)
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Tests for Adverbial Subordinate Clauses

1. It can be moved:

When he could forget the army, Gabriel relaxed thoroughly.

2. It can become the basis of a wh-question:

When did Gabriel relax thoroughly?

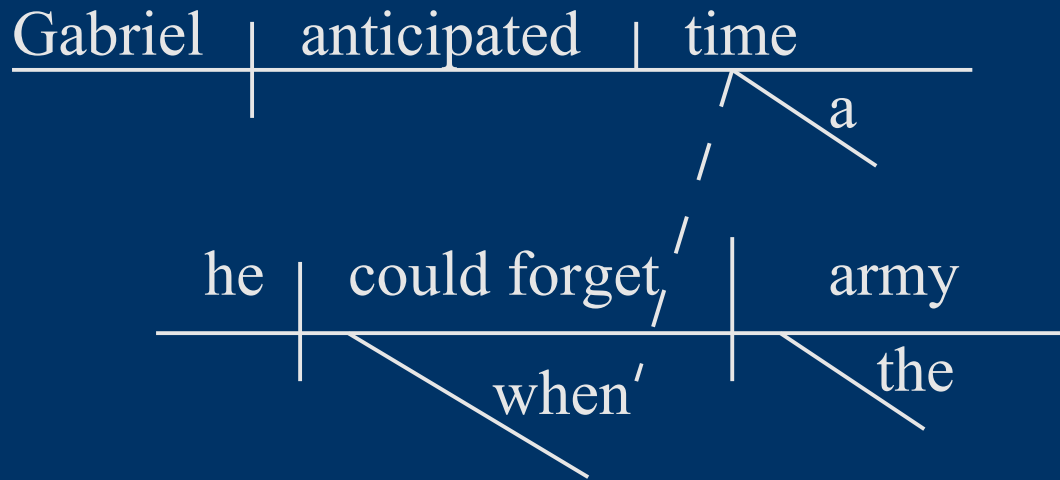
3. An adverb substitute for it:

Gabriel relaxed thoroughly then.

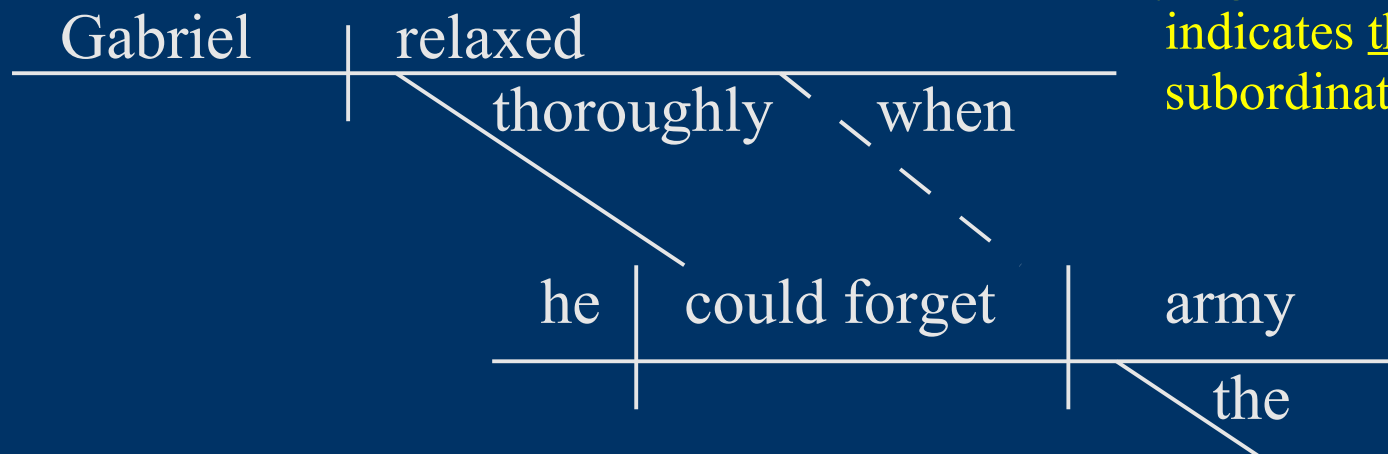
4. It fits the adverb frame sentence.

- Although the relative clause can also fit into the frame, it fails the other tests.
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Reed-Kellogg Diagram



the broken line linking the relative adverb *when* and the noun *time* signals the adjectival function of the relative clause



the subordinator *when* is written on a broken line linking the verb *relaxed* in the main clause with the verb *could forget* in the subordinate clause – indicates the adverbial function of the subordinate clause

Exercise 4

For each of the following sentences, find the relative pronoun or adverb, and give the constituent for which it substitutes.

Example: **The canoe that we just painted is sinking next to the dock.**
that = the canoe [we just painted the canoe]

1. A new Bio-optic Organized Knowledge device that has been named “BOOK” has been introduced.
 2. BOOK, which has no electric circuits to be switched on, represents a breakthrough in technology.
 3. It is small enough to be used by someone who is sitting in an armchair.
 4. Manufacturers are able to double BOOK's information density by using Opaque Paper Technology (OPT), which allows them to print on both sides of paper.
 5. Pages that have been scanned optically by the reader need only be flicked by a finger to get to the next page.
 6. Many BOOKs have an “index” feature that allows reader to find the exact location of any bit of information
 7. BOOK has an optional “BOOKmark” accessory that allow you to open BOOK at exactly the place where you quit reading before.
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Restrictive and Nonrestrictive Relative Clauses

- The purpose of all relative clauses is to provide specific identification for a noun
 - Relative clauses that help to identify specific referents are restrictive
 - **The commuters at Boeing who leave work at 5:00 suffer terrible traffic jams.**
 - tells precisely which commuters at Boeing are being referred to
 - implies that there are *some* commuters at Boeing who leave work at other times and that they may not suffer terrible traffic jams
 - Relative clauses that supply additional information about a referent that is already precisely identified are nonrestrictive
 - **The commuters at Boeing, who leave work at 5:00, suffer terrible traffic jams.**
 - is referring to all commuters at Boeing
 - surrounding commas signal for nonrestrictive relative clauses.

Examples

- **Have you seen the cathedral in which Beckett was murdered?**
 - restrictive (Have you seen the cathedral? - the meaning changes, restrictive relative clause is necessary to know which cathedral)
 - **Have you seen Canterbury Cathedral, in which Beckett was murdered?**
 - nonrestrictive (Have you seen Canterbury Cathedral? - the meaning is the same, nonrestrictive relative clause adds information)
 - **The house that settlers built in 1842 was destroyed by Hurricane Hugo**
 - restrictive (The house was destroyed by hurricane – the meaning changes – the house is not identified without restrictive clause)
 - **Whittington House, which settlers built in 1842, was destroyed by Hurricane Hugo**
 - nonrestrictive (Whittington House was destroyed by Hurricane Hugo – the meaning is unchanged – adds information)
 - when a relative clause modifies a unique proper noun it is nonrestrictive
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Exercise 5

- The sentences in this exercise contain both adverbial clauses and relative (adjectival) clauses. Underline each adverbial and relative clause, label it, and punctuate it correctly.
1. In the 1950s young people who were racing hot rods on Kern County's rural roads became a dangerous problem.
 2. With the sheriff's help, the kids formed a nonprofit group that arranged legal drag races on a taxiway on the town's little-used airport.
 3. These generations of local families have gathered to watch the races at the runaway on which the young people race.
 4. The races have paid the Inyokern Airport \$1,000 per racing day, which allowed them to schedule drag races several times a year.
 5. Although some drivers reached speed of 200 mph, other homemade dragsters merely sputtered down the quarter-mile track.
 6. Because Californians are known to love fast cars, the National Hot Rod Association is headquartered there.
 7. After 51 years, the FAA has threatened the airfield's federal funding unless they stop non-aviation activities at the field.
 8. If the young people cannot race on the airport runaway, most fear a rise in the illegal street racing that prompted the track's funding in the first place.
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Contrast Between Restrictive and Nonrestrictive Relative Clauses

Restrictive Relative Clauses

How Used	Required to specifically identify the noun it modifies.
Markers	Any of the relative pronouns or relative adverbs: <i>who, whom, whose, which, that, when, where, why</i> Hint: If the relative pronoun can be deleted, the clause is restrictive. Hint: The relative pronoun <i>that</i> occurs only in restrictive relative clauses.
Punctuation	No commas because the relative clause provides essential information.
Examples	<i>The people who own that barking dog are away on vocation.</i> <i>The book [that] I ordered for you hasn't come in yet.</i>

Nonrestrictive Relative Clauses

How Used	Gives additional information about a noun already specifically identified.
Markers	The relative pronouns and adverbs <i>who, whom, whose, which, when, where</i>
Punctuation	Hint: The relative pronoun can't be deleted from a nonrestrictive clause.
Examples	Set off by commas in writing, or by distinguishing pausing in speech. <i>The Mullens, who own that barking dog, are away on vocation.</i> <i>Madame Bovary, which I ordered for you, hasn't come in yet.</i>
