

# Semantics: Tutorial on Situations

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1. Although English does not mark **evidentiality** grammatically, it can be expressed in other ways. Consider the following situation:  $S$  “Kim bit Sandy”. How could you express the following situations:
  - (1) You think  $S$  is true, but have no evidence
  - (2) You saw  $S$  occur
  - (3) You saw a bite mark on Sandy, matching Kim’s dental work
  - (4) Someone told you  $S$
  - (5) You are Sandy, and you experienced  $S$

Are any of these expressed grammatically in a language that you speak?

2. Find examples of each of the semantic roles from the story you are annotating:
  - agent
  - patient
  - theme
  - experiencer
  - beneficiary
  - location
  - source
  - goal
  - stimulus
  - instrument
3. Find examples of modality from the story you are annotating:
  - Epistemic (knowledge)
    - auxilliary
    - main verb
    - adverb
  - Deontic (permisison/obligation)
    - auxilliary
    - main verb
    - adverb