LIN 491. Study Questions #8: Tsujimura, Ch. 6. Semantics 1 (pp. 340-363)

1. Word meaning and sentence meaning
1.1. Word/phrase meaning and types of relationship
1. Draw two trees for (5) on p. 343 expressing different meanings.

1.2. Sentence meanings
2. How are ‘semantic roles’ and ‘subcategorization’ different from each other?

1.3. Metaphors and idioms

1.4. Deixis
NOTE: The ‘verbs of giving and receiving’ usually indicate that the speaker regards the transfer as an act of kindness or a favor (by the giver for the receiver). There are verbs that do not imply such meanings; e.g. watusu ‘give, hand over,’ ataeru ‘give, grant,’ yokosu ‘give,’ uketoru ‘receive.’

3. (1) Is the membership of ‘in-group’ and ‘out-group’ fixed at all times?
   (2) Does any of the following sound odd? If yes, how would you fix it?
   a. Sensei-ni suisenjoo-no tame-no fuutoo-o sashiage-ta.
      ‘(I) gave (my) teacher (the) envelope for (my) recommendation letter.’
   b. Kesa hana/neko-ni mizu-o yat-ta.
      ‘(I) watered (the) flowers/gave water to (my) cat this morning.’
   c. [middle-aged men talking at work]
      A: Ashita-wa Haha-no-Hi-desu-ne.
      ‘Tomorrow is Mother’s Day, isn’t it.’
      B: Ee, tsuma-ni nanka purezengo-o age-nai-to...
      ‘Yes, (I) have to give (my) wife some present.’
      A: Soo-desu-ne. Okaasan-ni-mo nanika sashiage-ru-n-desu-ka?
      ‘Right. Are (you) going to give something to (your) mother, too?’
      ‘(My) mother gave sushi to (my) friend Yamada.

1.5. Mimetics
NOTE: The accent differs when reduplicated mimetics are used as an adverb (with or without to) or an adjectival noun/regular noun.
   a. Teeburu-no ue-ga zarazara (-to) shite-i-ru.  zarazara: HLLL
      ‘The table top is/feels rough (=not smooth).’
   b. Teeburu-no ue-ga zarazara-da.  zarazara: LHHH (unaccented)
      ‘The table top is/feels rough (=not smooth).’
   c. hirahira (HLHL)(-to) su-ru ‘to flutter’; hirahira (LHHH) ‘lace, frill’

4. What are the major differences between mimetics and non-mimetics?