

Quenya problem

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Directions

Quenya (/kwenya/) is an Elvish Language of Middle Earth bearing uncanny resemblances to both Finnish and Welsh. Although some of the example words in the data below are taken from known Elvish (Tolkienesque) sources, some are made up, the agreement is iffy, and the word order facts are further fictional exemplars of this already fictional language, concocted purely as a toy PS problem.

Write phrase-structure rules for the following data. Your **single set of rules** should simultaneously account for all the grammatical sentences and block the ungrammatical ones. List the words belonging to each lexical category, positing ambiguous words where necessary. Draw trees for examples 5, 10, and 12.

Data

0. sukuvie
 drink-prf
 There was drinking.
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1. sukuvie nér
 drink-prf man
 The man drank.
-
2. sukuvie nér nén
 drink-prf man water
 The man drank water.
-
3. sukuvie nér alta nén
 drink-prf man tall water
 The tall man drank water.
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4. sukuvie nér nén alta
 drink-prf man water great
 The man drank holy water.
-

Data continued

5. sukuvie nér alta han
 drink-prf man tall very
 The very tall man drank.

6. * sukuvie alta
 drink-prf tall
 The tall drank.

7. * sukuvie nér han
 drink-prf man very
 The very man drank.

8. * sukuvie han
 drink-prf very
 The very drank.

9. utuvie nér alta koppa
 find-prf man tall cup
 The tall man found a cup.

Data continued

10. utuvie nér alta auré koppa
 find-prf man tall golden cup
 The tall man found a golden cup.

* The tall golden man found a cup.

11. sukuvie nér loma tana an
 drink-prf man night that on
 The man drank on that night.

12. utuvie nér koppa auré loma tana an
 find-prf man cup golden night that on
 The man found a cup on that golden night.

* The man found a golden cup on that night.

13. sukuvie néva nén
 drink-prf woman water
 The woman drank water.

Data continued

14. sukuvie nér nén néva alté fe
 drink-prf man water woman tall pos
 The man drank the tall woman's water.
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