REFLEXIVES
Valency decreasing operations

Operations that decrease valency by “combining” the 2 core arguments of a transitive clause…

- Reflexives
- Reciprocals
- Middle construction
Reflexives

A and O are the same entity.
• Lexical reflexives
• Morphological reflexives (harmonic & nonharmonic)
• Analytic reflexives

Let’s take a look at the different types…

http://wals.info/
Lexical reflexives

Tied to the lexical meaning of a particular verb.

(agent) E-ar reja leen.

(patient) 3sg-pst shave that.man

‘That man shaved.’

What is the syntactic and semantic valency of (4)?
Morphological reflexives

Expressed by a morphological process.

- Harmonic – the reflexive marker agrees with the person of the S argument

\[
\begin{array}{ll}
\text{agent} & \text{patient} \\
(5) \text{Matilde quermó la cena.} & \text{Matilde burned the.fem dinner} \\
& \text{‘Matilde burned dinner.’}
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{ll}
\text{agent} & \text{patient} \\
(6) \text{Matilde se-quermó.} & \text{Matilde refl-burned} \\
& \text{‘Matilde burned herself.’}
\end{array}
\]
Morphological reflexives

Expressed by a morphological process.

- Non-Harmonic – the reflexive marker does not change.

(7) Ja umyvaju-s’a.
    1sg wash.pr.1sg-refl
    ‘I wash myself.’

(8) ty umyvaješ-s’a.
    2sg wash.pr.2sg-refl
    ‘You wash yourself.’
Analytic reflexives

Use a reflexive pronoun.

What is the syntactic and semantic valency of this sentences?

(9) E-ar       denete make.

3sg-past hit    self

‘He hit himself.’