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SUBJECT:

"A second reason for believing in the separation of syntax from semantics, as autonomous levels, is that the same phenomena can require different classifications on the two levels. The clearest instance of this that I know of is number in the noun-phrase. The argument runs as follows: there are some noun-phrases (or nouns—it makes no difference to the argument) which are syntactically plural but not semantically plural (such as these bathroom scales, which may be ambiguous semantically but in one of its readings must be as singular semantically as, say, this bathroom-weighing machine; cf. also these oats versus this wheat); and there are others which are semantically plural but not syntactically plural, notably the following two cases. First, there are noun-phrases with collective heads, such as the committee, which can occur with verbs like disperse which need to be marked as occurring only with subjects that refer to a group of individuals – i.e. semantically plural subjects; and second, there are noun-phrases with heads like heap, a in a large heap of logs, which can occur in a reciprocal construction ('A large heap of logs were piled on top of each other'), in contrast with a large heap of sand, which has to be semantically singular. I take it as axiomatic that this kind of situation requires two different levels, each with its own classification of the items concerned."

Richard A. HUDSON, *Arguments for a Non-Transformational Grammar*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1976, p. 6.

Discuss.

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My shears are bent. Can you fix them? Short answer: Sometimes. Re-setting scissors is an art as much as a science.

BJ's Rapid Edge, < http://bjsrapidedge.com/fag >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 2

Speaking to *TheScore.ie*, Treacy said the funds were "hugely important" in aiding Team Ireland's performances at the Olympics, and added: "The government have provided very significant funds over the last four years and we hope that will continue."

The 42, < www.the42.ie/john-treacy-olympics-interview-557328-Aug2012 >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 3

Shortly after Tono-Bungay came out in 1909, Wells's friend Arnold Bennett gave it a generally enthusiastic, and enjoyably biased, review. In it, Bennett told a story about a "smart, positive, little woman" he met in Bayswater who said: "I draw the line at Wells. He stirs up the dregs. I don't mind the froth, but dregs I – will – not – have!"

The Guardian, < www.theguardian.com/books/2016 >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 4

A heap of rubble was cleared from the original N stairwell of the crypt entrance, now blocked. The rubble contained modern material, and more than 100 floor tiles, from a 15th century yellow and black chequer floor.

Carolyn Heighway, Gloucester Cathedral and Precinct, 2003

Excerpt 5

The Commission was established in 1986 by an act of the federal Parliament. We are an independent statutory organisation and report to the federal Parliament through the Attorney-General.

Australian Human Rights Commission, < www.humanrights.gov.au >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 6

Promptly at the hour, the herd were counted and corralled, Don Mateo Gonzales not troubling to appear, which was mystifying to the North Texas men, but Uncle Lance explained that a mere incident like selling seven hundred cattle was not sufficient occasion to arouse the ranchero of Santa Maria when his corporal could attend to the business.

Andy Adams, A Texas Matchmaker, 1904

Excerpt 7

However, Agard admits that come the end of the season, he won't mind who picks up the 'Top Goalscorer' award, as long as the team are winning games.

Milton Keynes Dons, < www.mkdons.com >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 8

The US is perhaps the most famous country in the world, not only for being the world's largest economic power and its cultural center since World War II; but also as a leading tourist destination. With over 74m international tourist arrivals (as of 2014), it is the second most visited country after France. The United States have a lot of appealing features for tourists.

Safe Around, < https://safearound.com >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 9

On pensions, the government has placed freedom over protection – but will it make us better off?

The Independent, < www.independent.co.uk >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 10

Binoculars are an essential tool for birders, but with so many models on the market, it can be daunting to find the perfect pair. So we turned to professional ornithologists and dedicated birders.

Audubon, < www.audubon.org/gear/binocular-guide >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 11

"Working on a mound of bricks, cement and steel iron rods, a demolition crew demolishes a building in Beijing's once-thriving Sanlitun south bar street."

Getty Images, < www.gettyimages.ca/photos/beijing/ >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 12

Crowds surged through the streets looting and burning. The city's three thousand police were unable to control the situation and had to be reinforced by fifteen thousand U.S. servicemen.

Thomas Reppetto, American Police, A History. 1945-2012: The Blue Parade, 2012

Excerpt 13

Amazon's 'worker cage' has been dropped, but its staff are not free. The company's dystopian patent is shocking – and shows how blue- and white-collar workers are controlled at every turn.

The Guardian, < www.theguardian.com >, last accessed in 2019

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The Commission visited Manchester and heard evidence covering the North of England on the theme of partnership. Evidence was heard from Saheli Asian Women's Project; Amandudu Women's Refuge; The Angelou Centre and Apna Haq. Following this session the Commission were joined by Changing Lives and WomenMATTA.

Against Violence & Abuse, < https://avaproject.org.uk >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 15

Every attempt I previously made at home had turned into a messy pile of potatoes, crispy in some parts but mostly all stuck to each other and mushy in the middle.

 $\textit{Recipes} \ \textit{Remembered}, < \textit{https://recipesremembered.wordpress.com/2011/12/11/home-fries/} >, \ \textit{last accessed in 2019}$

Excerpt 16

Before refrigeration and rapid transportation, if a family wanted fresh eggs or chicken, they had to raise them themselves. Poultry were an extension of the family kitchen, not a major business enterprise, for most farmers.

Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, < www.minneapolisfed.org >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 17

That was the era of much fussiness in architectural adornment. What might have emerged from the drawing boards was a mound of brick festooned with decorations. But what did come out was a simple straightforward building years ahead of itself in functional design.

Chicagology, < https://chicagology.com/goldenage/ >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 18

How have the aristocracy achieved such a remarkable recovery of their fortunes? First, in common with their ancestors, they have systematically, repeatedly and successfully sought to avoid tax.

The Guardian, < www.theguardian.com >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 19

I had a think and asked some of my fellow blogging dietitians on Facebook what is a dietitian's top 10 pet hates about the world of nutrition and being a dietitian!

Dietitian's life, < www.dietitianslife.com >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 20

Crockery and dishware at Moore Wilson's. Shop online for delivery in New Zealand or visit one of our stores in Wellington.

Moore Wilson's, < https://moorewilsons.co.nz >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 21

There are any number of ways to measure body weight and shape, from the bedroom mirror to the bathroom scales, to more complex measures such as the body mass index, waist-to-hip ratio and 'per cent body fat'. But what is best and what do you need to know?

Medibank, < https://agl.medibank.com.au >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 22

They all seemed to know each other and one of them said in her slow soft Highland voice, 'Do you think Murdina will be wearing her beads today?' They all laughed.

Iain Crichton Smith, The Red Door: The Complete English Stories 1949-76, 2013

Excerpt 23

He closed the venetian blinds and then the drapes, and he lay down on the outside of the coverlet.

Kurt Vonnegut, Slaughterhouse-Five, 1969

Excerpt 24

Depending on how serious a cook you are, I recommend having two kitchen scales: one for weighing small amounts of ingredients in fractions of ounces and a larger one for weighing bulk items capable of multiple pounds.

Food Reference, < www.foodreference.com >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 25

'Shingles. I don't think it will be too bad a dose, but it's a beast of a complaint.' I'll endorse that,' said Edward. 'I wonder where I got it?" Lots of chickenpox about. It's connected, you know. Have you been in contact with anyone particularly?' Edward thought, as he did up his shirt buttons. 'Young George Curdle's got it, of course, and I've visited him now and again. Playing snakes and ladders and draughts and other thrilling games.' 'Sounds as though that's it.'

Miss Read, The World of Thrush Green, 1990, BNC

Excerpt 26

The Committee disagrees with this request and is concerned about the developmental challenges the system is incurring.

Department of Defense, Department of Defense Appropriation Bill, 2002

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SUBJECT:

"I propose [...] that the extension of mass nouns (like *change*) is essentially the same as that of plurals (like *coins*). A mass noun simply denotes a set of ordinary individuals *plus* all the pluralities of such individuals. For example, 'change' denotes, roughly, single coins and all the possible sets or pluralities of coins. This view is an 'atomistic' one: we are committed to claiming that for each mass noun there are minimal objects of that kind, just like for count nouns, even if the size of these minimal parts may be vague. The main difference between count and mass nouns thus comes to the following: while count nouns single out in the lexicon the relevant atoms or minimal parts (by making them the exclusive components of their extension), mass nouns do not. The fact that the denotation of count nouns may be directly counted will be argued to follow in a natural way from this difference. This view is based upon the following arguably natural intuition. Common nouns in general refer to qualitatively homogeneous aspects of the world and there are two ways of doing so. Either we let a noun denote the minimal representatives of a kind or substance (and we get count nouns). Or we let it denote all the homogeneous parts of that kind or substance (and we get mass nouns)."

Gennaro CHIERCHIA, "Plurality of Mass Nouns and the Notion of 'Semantic Parameter'". Susan Rothstein (ed.), *Events and Grammar*. Dordrecht / Boston / London: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1998, p. 54.

Discuss.

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After harvesting, first rid your lettuce of any wilting or damaged leaves, because foliage that's already starting to waste would speed up the process for others in storage.

Horticulture, "Q & A", Vol. 111, Iss. 5, Sep/Oct. 2014, COCA

Excerpt 2

This was a cold, sterile room with white walls, bare timber floors, and only an old rattan chair as furniture.

Christopher Golden & Tim Lebbon, *Mind the Gap: A Novel of the Hidden Cities*, 2008, COCA

Excerpt 3

The TRAGEDIANS start to resume their burdens and their journey. GUIL stirs himself at last.

GUIL: Where are you going?

PLAYER: Ha-alt! They halt and turn.

Home, sir.

GUIL: Where from?

PLAYER: Home. We're travelling people. We take our chances where we find them.

GUIL: It was chance, then?

PLAYER: Chance? GUIL: You found us. PLAYER: Oh yes.

GUIL: You were looking?

PLAYER: Oh no. GUIL: Chance, then. PLAYER: Or fate.

Tom Stoppard, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead, 1967

Excerpt 4

Here on the border, there's a lot of work, a lot of factories. They don't pay all that much, but at least you can live comfortably.

Cecilia Ballí, "The Border is Wide", Harpers Magazine, 2006, COCA

Excerpt 5

I am worn out by Roger Goodell's countenance, demeanor, cynicism and hypocrisy. The league is a bed of corruption, stupidity and insidious beliefs that have no place in a civil society.

"Jets still chasing repeat of Joe Namath's 11 weeks of greatness", New York Post, 2016, COCA

Excerpt 6

This morning she was eager to share her anxiety about Elizabeth with the group and get their input, as they were all mothers and had plenty of experience guiding their children through young adulthood. When Lucy arrived, she found Rachel Goodman and Pam Stillings already seated at their usual table.

Leslie Meier, French Pastry Murder, 2014, COCA

Excerpt 7

She found herself capable of a courage that startled her. Maybe it was temper. She went upstairs, emptied her jewelbox into her pockets and left the house. In 1912 this was an extraordinary thing to do.

Penelope Gilliatt, What's It Like Out?, 1989, BNC

Excerpt 8

When our babies cried, we would feed them, change them, hold them, rock them until eventually they fell asleep, yet often we did not know for sure why they were crying. This is courage – caring without certitude.

Marylin Martone, "What Families Can Teach", America, 1995, COCA

Excerpt 9

Most women's waters break during labour, but it can also happen before labour starts.

 $NHS, < www.nhs.uk/conditions/pregnancy-and-baby/labour-signs-what-happens/\#what-happens-when-my-waters-break >, \\ last accessed in 2019$

Excerpt 10

Friendship is very important in the life of a child or young adult. It is an integral part of their sense of well-being. In order to develop friendships, children need daily shared time and experiences with others their age. Schools can be a source of friendships that last a lifetime.

L. Davern & R. Schnorr, "Public Schools Welcome Students with Disabilities as Full Members", *Children Today*, Vol. 20 Iss. 2, 1991, COCA

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It was my first day on the campaign trail, and I had arrived dreaming all the usual dreams. Now, here I was, in a sour little coffee shop on a cold morning, with the smell of dog hanging over the man who would be the leader of the free world, in a country where people want things now, right now.

Reed Karaim, If Men Were Angels, 1999, COCA

Excerpt 12

We know salmon is omega-3-rich. But if you don't enjoy cooking salmon because of the fishy odor, poaching is the perfect, virtually foolproof method, as the seasoned broth keeps the fish moist. Any quick-cooking vegetable can be used and the broth flavorings can be changed up with white wine and herbs. Serve over brown rice or rice noodles to round out the meal.

Bob Townsend, "A New Resolve", Atlanta Journal Constitution, 2013, COCA

Excerpt 13

On the bed was the phonebook or what was left of the phonebook, most of the pages ripped out and balled and torched in the ashtray to a heap of ash.

Victoria Redel, "Floaters", Antioch Review, Vol. 52, Iss. 4, Fall 1994, COCA

Excerpt 14

To make roasted rice powder, heat a wok or skillet over high heat. Add raw rice and cook, stirring often, until rice is toasted and dark brown, but not black, 3 to 5 minutes. Remove from wok and set aside to cool. Grind to a coarse powder in a mortar, blender or coffee grinder; set aside.

Julia Moskin, "A Touch of Asia, Tangy and Hot", San Francisco Chronicle, 2009, COCA

Excerpt 15

"There are two schools of thought right now in urban ecology," she says. One says keep the experiment hidden or camouflaged. The other says, "make it as obvious as possible, put signs up, tell people that there's real science happening."

Kate Baggaley, "The Concrete Jungle", Science News, Vol. 187, Iss. 1, 2015, COCA

Excerpt 16

The same month, the United States delivered a statement at the U.N. Human Rights Council on behalf of forty-two nations expressing concern over Russia's "ongoing violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity".

Michael N. Schmitt, "Respect for Sovereignty in Cyberspace", Texas Law Review, Vol. 95, Iss. 7, 2017, COCA

Excerpt 17

Protons don't change whether locked in an atom of water or copper.

Ronald J. Allen, "Moral Choices, Moral Truth and the Eighth Amendment", Harvard Journal of Law & Public Policy, Vol. 31, Iss. 1, 2008, COCA

Excerpt 18

Climate science shows that warming causes evaporation off the oceans and other water bodies, putting more moisture into the atmosphere, Swain said. That vapor doesn't always come down and doesn't always fall in the same place where it went up. But it can fall in torrents.

"Broken California Dam is a Sign of Emergencies to Come", Scientific American, 2017, COCA

Excerpt 19

A growing body of research shows that the best way to keep your metabolism revved and body-fat levels low is to feed yourself in small amounts. Eat airline-size (rather than restaurant-size) portions of meat, fish, pasta, grains and desserts.

Elizabeth Sommer, "Shape's 5 Point Plan for Weight Loss", Shape, Vol. 20, Iss. 8, 2001, COCA

Excerpt 20

Stir oatmeal in a medium saucepan over medium heat until lightly toasted. Add water and bring to a rolling boil. Reduce heat to a simmer and cook until oatmeal is thick but oats are firm, about 7 minutes.

Lynya Floyd, "Morning Glory", Essence, Vol. 41, Iss. 11, Mar. 2011, COCA

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SUBJECT:

« [Certains] auteurs (Groussier, Groussier, Chantefort, 1994 : 117) reprennent la distinction 'continu non-quantifiable, ... "qui ne peut être envisagé sous l'angle de la quantité" et 'continu quantifiable'. Ils suggèrent que l'opération faite sur le non-quantifiable pourrait être lié à du qualitatif [...]. Cela signifie-t-il que, à côté d'opérations qui seraient uniquement qualitatives sur le continu posé comme insécable, on aurait affaire, sur le continu posé comme sécable, à des prélèvements qui ne seraient que quantitatifs ?

Certes on ne peut nier que des noms comme **stab**, **pang**, **act** aient une valeur qualitative. Mais on ne peut non plus nier qu'en ce qui concerne les prélèvements traditionnellement, et d'une manière très consensuelle, décrits comme quantitatifs, des termes comme bar (of chocolate), cake (of soap), pile (of rubbish) comportent aussi une dimension qualitative, en apportant en l'occurrence des précisions sur la forme du référent. Bar, cake et pile sont-ils très différents de piece ? Piece serait-il qualitativement neutre, ou, pour formuler les choses autrement, exempt de tout apport qualitatif? Si l'on examine le répertoire des discrétiseurs proposé par le dictionnaire Longman (LDCE, p. 776) à l'article piece, on y voit que **piece** est utilisé si le référent est une substance solide. De fait, on imagine mal des suites comme ??? a piece of oil / whisky / wine, lorsque ces trois substances sont envisagées dans leur état liquide. Piece a donc, lui aussi, une valeur qualitative : comme avec bar, cake et pile, l'aspect qualitatif s'ajoute à l'aspect quantitatif. Mais il faut alors remarquer que la question du caractère solide ou non solide du référent ne se pose que pour des objets ou substances physiques perçus en trois dimensions. C'est justement avec des noms comme advice, information, nastiness, renvoyant à des référents qui ne sont pas des objets ou substances tridimensionnels, que le discrétiseur piece semblerait ne plus avoir qu'un rôle quantitatif, à la manière d'un nom comme **pound** (of butter), qui renvoie à une mesure. Il semblerait que cette dichotomie souvent suggérée entre prélèvements quantitatifs et opérations proprement qualitatives, doive son origine plus à la nature des référents extra-linguistiques qu'à un fonctionnement de la langue. [...] Nous dirons [...] que les discrétiseurs peuvent [...] avoir un aspect apparemment exclusivement quantitatif comme dans a pound of butter, an item of information, et a piece of nastiness, mais que bien souvent, ils sont nettement investis des deux aspects quantitatif et qualitatif, qu'il s'agisse de a piece of chalk ou de a pang of regret ou de a stab of pity. »

Viviane ARIGNE, « Le nom : problèmes de nombre et catégorisation nominale en anglais », Recherches en linguistique étrangère, XIX, Mélanges Jean Tournier, 1988, p. 45-47. (l'auteur souligne)

Discuss.

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The funniest item of clothing I've ever owned ...

Hands down, it has to be a Prada man dress. What a garment. It was for a psychic character I created a while back. I kept it though, as I did his huge white PVC and fake fur coat and the S&M bridle. Second and third place respectively.

The Guardian, < www.theguardian.com/stage/2018/jul/06/marc-wootton-funniest-things >, last accessed in 2018

Excerpt 2

If you want to delve into the world of soap making, but are too afraid to work with lye, consider making a new bar of soap using old bars of soap. This is a great way to learn the basics of soap making and experiment with additions, such as oatmeal and essential oil. You can also use this method to salvaged botched batches of homemade soap.

How to Do Anything... < www.wikihow.com/Make-a-New-Bar-of-Soap-from-Used-Bars-of-Soap >, last accessed in 2018

Excerpt 3

It's funny quite how much joy it can bring to learn the titbit of information that Dame Maggie Smith's friends call her 'Mags', while Dame Judi Dench is known as 'Jude'. In *Nothing Like A Dame*, a documentary out now, that detail is just the beginning. Essentially, this is sitting down for a chinwag with four of the greatest actors in British history. And it's utterly charming.

The Pool, < www.the-pool.com/arts-culture/film/2018/21/Rachael-Sigee-on-documentary-Nothing-Like-A-Dame >, last accessed in 2018

Excerpt 4

The halls are bright at every hour, but out the windows the darkness presses very close, and in the leanest hours of those nights Tom gets a sensation like the hospital is deep underwater, the floor rocking gently, the lights of neighboring buildings like glimmering schools of fish, the pressure of the sea all around.

Anthony Doerr, "The Deep", in Ben Marcus (ed.), New American Stories, [2011] 2015

Excerpt 5

Lord Fortinbrass had been an avid hunter, a veritable one-man extinction event by all accounts. On one particular outing he had slaughtered no less than two bull elephants, a tiger and a brace of chinkara gazelles.

Vaseem Khan, The Unexpected Inheritance of Inspector Chopra, 2015

Excerpt 6

As he was buying the fruit, a gaggle of youths from the nearby computing college walked by. They swept past arm in arm, spreading good cheer and laughter as they went. They were the same age, he noted, as the dead boy he had seen at the station.

Vaseem Khan, The Unexpected Inheritance of Inspector Chopra, 2015

Excerpt 7

Chopra looked down at the calf. Flies had settled on Ganesha's eyes and a column of ants were marching resolutely up his trunk as if on military manoeuvres. Ganesha seemed oblivious or simply too despondent to care.

Vaseem Khan, The Unexpected Inheritance of Inspector Chopra, 2015

Excerpt 8

Give a colony of garden ants a week and a pile of dirt, and they'll transform it into an underground edifice about the height of a skyscraper in an ant-scaled city. Without a blueprint or a leader, thousands of insects moving specks of dirt create a complex, spongelike structure with parallel levels connected by a network of tunnels.

 $The \ Guardian, < www.theguardian.com/science/2014/apr/11/ants-self-organization-quanta>, \ last \ accessed \ in \ 2018$

Excerpt 9

They stepped back into the church and introductions were made. The ladies had now been joined by others and there was a confusion of fruit, vegetables and flowers everywhere. Dahlias and chrysanthemums blossomed in unlikely corners, marrows tumbled off window ledges, spiked arrangements of carrots and parsnips flaunted themselves against stained glass.

Barbara Pym, Jane and Prudence, [1953] 2007

Excerpt 10

We looked over at Bryah, who had remained silent. She considered the money, looked at Serena, and allowed a wry smile to play on her face.

"You could get into a spot of trouble with this bit of money," she said.

James Patterson, Guilty Wives, 2012, COCA

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After a few minutes they walked out of the Village, and into the wasteland beyond.

Amidst a tangle of foliage, they came into the area where the pipeline – a mile-long concrete sewage pipe – ended. The ground was damp with seepage. Chopra's nose twitched at the extraordinarily bad smell in the air. Human excrement, he realised.

'Over here,' said De Souza, leading Chopra around a mound of dumped rubbish to where a shallow pool of water had collected. A number of pigs rooting around in the waste looked up from their foraging to eye Chopra with interest.

Vaseem Khan, The Unexpected Inheritance of Inspector Chopra, 2015

Excerpt 12

The days went by, and he didn't see anything when he looked over his shoulder, and he forgot about Roger. And every once in a while Dot sent him out on a job, at which time he did do a certain amount of looking over his shoulder, a certain amount of thinking about Roger. But then he came back from the job without having done anything, to Roger or to anyone else, and the client paid him, and that was that. And then he'd said he was out of town.

Lawrence Block, Hit List, 2000, COCA

Excerpt 13

First of all, there is no reason to think that the amount of harm an offender causes through a given course of action is a good proxy for his need for rehabilitation. There is an absolute dearth of evidence in both the legal and psychological literature to support this link, and, in any event, there are likely far stronger proxies for how much rehabilitation an offender needs than whether he brings about a statutory harm.

John Boeglin, "A Theory of Differential Punishment", Vanderbilt Law Review, Vol. 70, Iss. 5, 2017, COCA

Excerpt 14

Students in my class at Rosa Parks Elementary School range from Kindergarten level to Grade 7 in their abilities in English Language Arts and Mathematics—only two students are at grade level in both areas--but I was amazed to see the amount of participation by all students. Meredith Monk's Panda Chant was the overall favorite of the class, and the Emmett Williams poem with the sequenced words really tied in nicely with Language Arts.

Eric Smigel & Nan McDonald, "Lessons That Bear Repeating and Repeating That Bears Lessons: An Interdisciplinary Unit on Principles of Minimalism in Modern Music, Art, and Poetry (Grades 4–8)", General Music Today, Vol. 26, Iss. 1, 2012, COCA

Excerpt 15

"And not a word of complaint," said Ryan's dad. A completely charming person."

"Almost as charming - or so you told me - as the Flemings," she said.

"And the good they do!" she said. "They flew a planeload of babies over here."

"Russian babies," he said. "With harelips."

George Saunders, "Home", in Ben Marcus (ed.), New American Stories, [2013] 2015

Excerpt 16

In the end he had decided to leave the elephant alone while he worked in the restaurant's back office. A number of cases required documentation and a backlog of client correspondence had built into a miniature pyramid inside his filing cabinet.

Vaseem Khan, The Perplexing Theft of the Jewel in the Crown, 2016

Excerpt 17

Shomili took a deep breath. Before going back inside, she noticed the glimmers of light through the areca trees as though for the first time, and all those tiny flickers warmed her face. She saw something in the light; she didn't know what yet, but there was something there and she knew she didn't have to be afraid of it.

Juned Subhan, "Light", Confrontation, Iss. 113, 2013, COCA

Excerpt 18

As always he felt a hoop of nostalgia tightening around his chest as he recalled the twenty-odd years he had spent as the in-charge of this little outpost. And an outpost was how he had always pictured it, a little island of integrity in the great sea of wickedness that Mumbai often seemed to have become.

Vaseem Khan, The Perplexing Theft of the Jewel in the Crown, 2016

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SUBJECT:

"plural

(n. & adj.) I (A word or form) denoting more than one. Contrasted with SINGULAR."

Sylvia CHALKER & Edmund WEINER, *The Oxford Dictionary of English Grammar*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, [1994] 1998, p. 300.

Discuss.

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I'm having more trouble getting used to how it fits in my hands. I say hands, plural, because this isn't a device you'll want to use with one hand.

Al Sacco, "BlackBerry Passport", PC World, Vol. 32, Iss. 11, Nov. 2014, COCA

Excerpt 2

Domestic farmed salmon have suffered frequent outbreaks of disease and sea lice, and their waste often damages the surrounding ecosystem. And farmed salmon are typically fed large amounts of smaller fish like anchovies and herring – whose stocks are also on the decline. One pound of salmon requires the fish oil wrung from five pounds of these forage fish.

Mother Jones, < www.motherjones.com >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 3

Maybe that was why the English aristocracy carried a sense of entitlement and assurance. They knew their roots. Portraits of their ancestors lined the walls of countless country estates.

Hannah Dennison, A Killer Ball at Honeychurch Hall, 2017, COCA

Excerpt 4

And maybe I'd cut you more slack if all these crazy shenanigans you've put us through to protect Ayana had actually worked.

Colby Marshall, Flash Point, 2017, COCA

Excerpt 5

He then picked it up delicately between thumb and forefinger, as if he held something highly vulnerable in tweezers.

Barbara Vine, A Fatal Inversion, 1987, BNC

Excerpt 6

Obsidian is already mad at him from yesterday, when he helped a kid finish his rice and beans.

Tom Cantwell, "Runner", The Massachusetts Review, Vol. 58, Iss. 1, Spring 2017, COCA

Excerpt 7

Despite Egyptian support, the deposed Imam, Muhammad al-Badr, was able to flee to the mountains, establish a base of support among local tribesmen, and enlist help from the like-minded royals of Saudi Arabia.

Chris Quillen, "The Use of Chemical Weapons by Arab States", The Middle East Journal, 2017, COCA

Excerpt 8

Mumps is a contagious viral infection that used to be common in children before the introduction of the MMR vaccine.

NHS, < www.nhs.uk/conditions/mumps >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 9

Like crocodiles, S. aegyptiacus appears to have had receptors at the end of its snout sensitive to change in pressure, a way to detect the presence of fish in murky water. Unlike other theropods, the creature had dense, solid bones with no space down the center for marrow, a feature that would have affected its buoyancy in water.

Those waters – typically large, broad rivers – were teeming with fish. But the region was no Riviera. In the water, car-length coelocanths swam alongside sawfish 23 feet long, huge lungfish, and from six to eight species of shark.

The Christian Science Monitor, < www.csmonitor.com >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 10

I toyed with the idea of taking it myself, and hiding it somewhere, but it was almost too heavy for me to carry, and there was nowhere much nearer than the house itself where it could be hidden. The boat-house was too obvious, and anywhere in the woods or garden was still wet with the night's dew.

Mary Stewart, *The Stormy Petrel*, 1992, BNC

Excerpt 11

Actually, the list doesn't fit neatly into the country category. It also includes protest songs, Texas swing, Delta blues, gospel and early folk tunes. But they were all songs that had informed Johnny Cash as an artist.

"Making a 'list'; Rosanne Cash takes some of her father's favorite songs and makes them her own", *The Chicago Sunday Times*, 2010, COCA

Excerpt 12

OPERA buffs made sure the show went on when a storm hit their open-air Carmen – they moved into a cowshed. Beaufort Opera shifted their 30 singers, a full orchestra and 130 spectators into the farm building at Brownsea Island in Dorset.

The Daily Mirror, 1985-1994, BNC

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The Catholic Church has now questioned – at great risk – the total control of the government over the minds of its citizens. The Catholic bishops of Malawi have launched their own 'Liberation Theology' that deplores official repression. The Catholic flock – who constitute one third of Malawi's population – are tired of dividing their loyalties.

The Daily Telegraph, 1992, BNC

Excerpt 14

Books of all kinds, from children's books and cookery books to works on literature and philosophy, were displayed amid paintings, works of art and furnishings, which combined to create a country house atmosphere, while a series of lectures explored related themes.

National Library of Scotland Annual Report 1990-1991, u.p., n.d., 1985-1994, BNC

Excerpt 15

Wishart felt as if he was standing at a crossroads with two paths leading into the darkness.

Paul Charles Doherty, Crown in Darkness, 1991, BNC

Excerpt 16

Thanks to her looks, blonde hair and figure, being chatted up by lascivious males was an ongoing nuisance.

Elizabeth Oldfield, Sudden Fire, 1993, BNC

Excerpt 17

A large increase in the numbers of blue whales has been recorded off the California coast. More than 2,000 were found, compared to only about 500 in 1979/80. The numbers of humpback and fin whales had undergone similar increases. While the increase is encouraging, scientists at the National Marine Fisheries Service warn that the blue whale is still a long way from being taken off the endangered species list.

The Environment Digest, 1985-1994, BNC

Excerpt 18

There are people on food stamps who will buy a pack of gum with stamps and get the change in coins for the slots.

Today, 1992, BNC

Excerpt 19

Made to order, sumptuous Salad Bowls with a selection of freshly prepared salads, topped with a filling and dressing of your choice. Baked granary or white sandwiches, crusty french or pitta bread, served with a filling, crisp mixed salad and dressing of your choice. Plus a marvellous choice of English and continental foods, handmade chocolates, fresh pasta and sauces to name but a selection.

Leaflets advertising goods and products, 1985-1994, u.p., n.d., BNC

Excerpt 20

The Trump campaign released a fundraising video Thursday accusing the president's foes in the media of "SABOTAGE", saying that the "Fake News Media is working hand-in-hand with Washington's corrupt bureaucracy to try to slow and block our America First Agenda."

"80% of news stories were critical of President Trump", The Washington Times, 2017, COCA

Excerpt 21

Later we went over to my parents' house for a big Sunday dinner. My mother loved cooking for her children. Though my dad's coarse joking usually got on everyone's nerves, the large spread of two meats, five vegetables, and three desserts would be enough reason for any adult to ignore him.

Stephanie Perry Moore, Wearing my Halo Tilted, 2008, COCA

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SUBJECT:

« Sur la différence entre verbe et nom, souvent débattue, les définitions proposées se ramènent en général à l'une des deux suivantes : le verbe indique un procès ; le nom, un objet ; ou encore : le verbe implique le temps, le nom ne l'implique pas. Nous ne sommes pas le premier à insister sur ce que ces définitions ont l'une et l'autre d'inacceptable pour un linguiste. Il faut montrer brièvement pourquoi.

Une opposition entre "procès" et "objet" ne peut avoir en linguistique ni validité universelle, ni critère constant, ni même sens clair. La raison en est que des notions comme procès ou objet ne reproduisent pas des caractères objectifs de la réalité, mais résultent d'une expression déjà linguistique de la réalité, et cette expression ne peut être que particulière. Ce ne sont pas des propriétés intrinsèques de la nature que le langage enregistrerait, ce sont des catégories formées en certaines langues et qui ont été projetées sur la nature. La distinction entre procès et objet ne s'impose qu'à celui qui raisonne à partir des classifications de sa langue native et qu'il transpose en données universelles ; et celui-là même, interrogé sur le fondement de cette distinction, en viendra vite à reconnaître que, si "cheval" est un objet et "courir" un procès, c'est parce que l'un est un nom, l'autre un verbe. Une définition qui cherche une justification "naturelle" à la manière dont un idiome particulier organise ses notions, est condamnée à tourner en cercle. »

Émile BENVENISTE, Problèmes de linguistique générale. Vol. 1. Paris : Gallimard, 1966, p. 152.

Discuss.

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Green spurred his horse toward Joe. Just as he got to Joe, Joe jumped from the horse, and like a shot, he was under Green's horse. Green's horse reared, and he tumbled off. Joe turned to Peter.

John Gschwend, Chase The Wild Pigeons: A Novel of the Civil War, 2013

Excerpt 2

Rain falls at approximately the same speed one can descend while flying. This means that it is actually possible to free fall faster than the rain particles. If you fly up when it rains, the rain appears to fall faster. If you fly down while it rains, it will make the raindrops appear to be frozen in time.

Official Minecraft Wiki, < minecraft.gamepedia.com >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 3

However, one of the other difficulties I faced was that there was no singular description of how belonging is negotiated in relation to the nation-state that resounded with the women's descriptions of their experiences.

Melanie Baak, Negotiating Belongings: Stories of Forced Migration of Dinka Women from South Sudan, 2016

Excerpt 4

The highlight of our long summer holiday was successfully managing traveling on an aeroplane as a family. After years of hoping, months of planning and a group effort we successfully accomplished the mission.

Autism in the City, < autisminthecityblog.wordpress.com >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 5

If you are planning to ship items as you move to campus, please keep in mind that you can only receive packages after you have moved in. Do not send your belongings in advance of your arrival, as packages that arrive before you do will be returned to the sender.

Stanford University, < undergrad.stanford.edu >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 6

Knowing that there was oil there, the boy ran down the hill and crossed Lincoln Boulevard to the Temple family home, formerly the adobe store and saloon built by Rafael Basye and Jesús Andrade in 1869, to tell his father. Walter Temple returned with a match and, riskily, struck it over the pool and flame shot out.

La Misión Vieja: The Center of Greater Los Angeles, < misionvieja.blogspot.com >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 7

Back in USA, Anju continued her shooting the film with Rohit. As they traveled in the street, Anju suddenly stopped the car and hurried up the road as she noticed her sister Linno's clumsy braid.

A. J. Sebastian, "Bertrayal and Remorse in Tania James' Atlas of Unknowns", Journal of Alternative Perspectives in the Social Sciences, 2/2, 2010

Excerpt 8

We are accustomed to the repetition of Tesman's monotonous "What about that!" which he tags onto sentences like a catch phrase. Mr. Nunn, who has produced his own English adaptation of the original, stresses elsewhere the flatness of the language, with his constant repeating of simple words such as "beautiful". The verbal result is a kind of mad, comic oppressiveness.

The New York Times, < www.nytimes.com >, last accessed in 2018

Excerpt 9

I have been over to NY twice before, first when I was 18 so was unable to drink (cuts out a lot of spending money!) last year with my mum where we did the usual touristy things a couple of nice meals and cocktails and managed with £100 each a day, heading back with my husband this year and we are taking £200 each per day but plan to head out more at night for drinks and eating in higher end restaurants.

Tripadvisor, < www.tripadvisor.co.uk >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 10

Track your spending and income to get an accurate picture of your financial situation. Save receipts or write down your purchases in a notebook as you make them. Review your bills each month and add those expenses to your budget.

How To Do Anything, < www.wikihow.life/Spend-Money-Wisely >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 11

Ahh, the marathon long run. What a worrisome thing for most runners. And for good reason, the long run is such a crucial part of marathon training. I don't think there's any other race distance where one single workout plays such a large part in the success or failure of the race. As a result, you're often left with many questions: How far should I run? Do I run for time or distance? What about pace? What to eat and drink? The list goes on and on.

McMillan Running, < www.mcmillanrunning.com >, last accessed in 2019

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Paul calls himself a 'Picture Painting Foodie' in the social media world. He posts a variety of delicious recipes, and if you check out his video "How to Make Jelly Donuts" you will see a time-lapse video of him painting the donuts. He has developed a following of foodie and artsie groupies and labels social media as 'super-powerful'.

Paint Ontario, < www.paintontario.com >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 13

No one would argue with the fact that an unprepared, sloppy talk is a waste of both the speaker's and audience's time. I would go further. A poorly prepared talk makes a statement that the speaker does not care about the audience and perhaps does not care much about his subject. So what are the secrets of a good talk? Here is my list of do's and don'ts.

Climate and Global Dynamics, < www.cgd.ucar.edu >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 14

What about my third A-Level subject?

Good question! This is where universities differ – but most ask that the third A-Level is an academic one, so have a think about which other subjects you enjoy at the moment. A popular third choice is Maths or Physics.

The Medic Portal, < themedicportal.com >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 15

It would be easy to pass them on any British high street without giving them a second glance. These days they are frail old men and women. They look benign, but the experiences they lived through are truly astonishing. What follows are the stories of six surviving eyewitnesses to partition, the dividing of India into two nations — India and Pakistan.

The Times, < www.thetimes.co.uk >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 16

It is estimated that the average person sheds anywhere from 50 to 100 strands of hair per day, but when your hair is breaking on top of that, it can seem like you're losing a lot more. It's not difficult to draw a connection between hair breakage and dry, brittle hair, but there are other factors that we've come to accept as universal truths that contribute to hair that snaps, splits or breaks easily.

Global News, < www.globalnews.ca >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 17

Mr. Nixon emerges as smart, savvy and genuinely interested in the global consequences of American foreign policy, but he also comes across as self-aggrandizing, petty, vindictive, suspicious, egotistical and manipulative. We see him blatantly jockeying for a position of influence with the Bush and Clinton Administrations. We see him trying, almost desperately, to reshape his public image. And we see him mouthing off, indiscreetly, about rivals and colleagues.

The New York Times, < http://movies2.nytimes.com/books >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 18

Now, a Los Angeles-based actor is giving Queen Bey a run for her money. In an effort to promote body positivity, Ben Yahr teamed up with photographer Matthew Dean Stewart to create a shot-by-shot redux of those now-iconic pregnancy shots? and the results are pretty damn flawless.

Huffington Post, < www.huffingtonpost.com >, 2017, COCA

Excerpt 19

At the table, the nurse explained the wound. Before I examined, I looked at the nurse. "Scalpel, please," I said. "You haven't examined," she said. "Scalpel," I said. Reluctantly, she handed a scalpel across the table. I fit it in my hand like a hunting knife and and bent over at the waist and ran the scalpel down the front of my right boot and cut the boot laces at each cross of the boot until the boot fell open.

Otto F. Apel & Pat Apel, MASH: An Army Surgeon in Korea, 1998

Excerpt 20

However, if one cuts and pastes a caption set up this way into a new or existing document, Word converts the continuous section breaks to next page breaks. [...] Use custom pleading templates that already have captions built into them. I generally construct a new one from my general one for each case and put the caption for the case into the template for that case. This gets around the cut and paste.

Word Banter, < wordbanter.com >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 21

But what does Dewey mean by language? For Dewey, language emerges when a community of individuals coordinate actions in the pursuit of common endeavors. I point at the salt and say, "Salt please." My use of symbols institutes a shared intent with my dinner partner, ere is nothing private or exclusive about this intent.

Paul Guernsey, Post-Humanist Pragmatism, 2017, COCA

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SUBJECT:

"For those who use *mice* for rodents and *mouses* for computer pointers, the choice between the two plurals is no more grammatically determined than that between *cat* and *dog*. [...] It is not so clear that the plurals that appear in *she's got the brains in the family* or *the works of my watch were all gummed up* are inflectional forms of the same words that appear in the singular as *brain* and *work*. After all, if *brain* refers to an organ, *she's got the brains* does not mean that she has many cerebral organs. Or consider a plural like *waters* in *the river discharges its waters into the lake*; surely it does not refer to a set of waters in the same way as *books* refers to a set of books. Does that make it a lexical entry distinct from the singular *water*? Are *pence* (true of units of value) and *pennies* (true of coins) distinct lexical items? It depends on what we mean by lexical item."

Paolo ACQUAVIVA, *Lexical Plurals: A Morphosemantic Approach*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008, p. 1.

Discuss.

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Our hotel, the four-star Elea Beach, stands off the main drag at the end of a quiet lane. It has a large pool to lounge around, and attentive barman Tassos is on hand to top up your glass. The beautiful gardens lead directly on to a beach gently lapped by clear turquoise waters. Energetic pursuits include snorkelling and diving, para-gliding and water-skiing.

The Daily Mirror, 1992, BNC

Excerpt 2

Britain should approach the Millennium with head and spirits high, with a strong economy, with a high standard of living, with generously endowed and well managed public services, and with secure defences. We want Britain to be an example to the world of how a free people can make the very best of their destiny. That prospect is within the grasp of us all. We must now make it happen.

London Conservative Central Office, The Best Future for Britain, 1992, BNC

Excerpt 3

In an employment discrimination lawsuit under Title VII, the basic definition of back pay damages is that it gives you the money and fringe benefits you would have earned had your employer not discriminated against you. Put another way, the employer should be liable for the economic losses you suffered because of the discrimination.

Glass Ceiling Discrimination Blog, <www.glassceilingdiscriminationlawyer.com/nuts-bolts-back-pay-damages-employment-discrimination-cases >, last accessed in 2018

Excerpt 4

In fact, the language of politics has been growing more informal for half a century. The 1960s and 1970s — which featured assassinations, Watergate and Vietnam in America, and left-wing uprisings in Europe — led people to mistrust their 'betters' and their lofty, crafted rhetoric. Television, seeming to close the physical distance between viewers and viewed, rewarded an intimate, apparently genuine style in which politicians sounded like their voters, not above them. The impersonality and spontaneity of social media, which are edging out newspapers in news delivery, is fuelling the trend.

The Economist, < www.economist.com/books-and-arts/2018/06/21/american-political-rhetoric-is-sliding-towards-thesewer >, last accessed in 2018

Excerpt 5

The nurse materialized in the nurses' station and I met her in the window. I gave her the paperwork and she gave me a SMTWTFS pillbox, a chart that showed how it was set up, and a bag of meds.

Lucy Corin, "Madmen", One Hundred Apocalypses and Other Apocalypses, 2015

Excerpt 6

The reviewers' approach varies. Fiction, for instance, is usually given objective critical treatment. Biographies and political memoirs – to which a lot of space is granted – are often used as a device for the reviewer to express his own prejudices.

David Spiller, Book selection. Principles and practice, 1991, BNC

Excerpt 7

The Queen has undergone eye surgery to remove a cataract, wearing sunglasses in public rather than cancel her long-planned engagements.

The 92-year-old monarch underwent the successful procedure in May, Buckingham Palace confirmed on Friday afternoon.

In recent weeks, the Queen has been seen wearing sunglasses at a number of events including the Royal Windsor Horse Show and Buckingham Palace garden parties.

The Telegraph, < www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/06/08/queen-had-surgery-remove-cataract-wore-sunglassesrather-cancel >, last accessed in 2018

Excerpt 8

'I am going to withdraw her from school. I am going to get a letter from my doctor stating that she is suffering from some rare illness, and that she is advised complete bed rest, in healthy, clean surroundings. Then I will take her to Silvassa with me for a few months.'

Vaseem Khan, The Unexpected Inheritance of Inspector Chopra, 2015

Excerpt 9

Kiran had high hopes that her daughter would become a surgeon or, failing that, a fashion model. She was certainly beautiful, having inherited her mother's looks.

Vaseem Khan, The Unexpected Inheritance of Inspector Chopra, 2015

Excerpt 10

On a daily basis fevered spasms struck my brain. A customer said to me: William, your brains are palpitating, look! See the sides of your head: your temples are banging together.

James Kellman, 'Words and Things to Sip', That was a Shiver, and other Stories, 2017

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'In what way am I not good enough?'

Miss Van Schuyler again did not answer.

'I've got two legs, two arms, good health, and quite reasonable brains. What's wrong with that?'

'There is such a thing as social position, Mr Ferguson.'

Agatha Christie, Death on the Nile, 1937

Excerpt 12

Certainly, Kiran had leaped at the possibility of salvaging her family honour. She had already helped to convince her daughter who, though not without qualms, had reluctantly accepted the eminent practicality of the solution.

Vaseem Khan, The Unexpected Inheritance of Inspector Chopra, 2015

Excerpt 13

Books proofs and publicity material for preview should be sent to Julia Eccleshare at *(deleted address)*. Her next preview, of May titles, will be in the issue of 12th March.

Bookseller, 1993, BNC

Excerpt 14

Without further ado, she had organised the wedding. Her husband, still away in Delhi, had been furious, but for once Kiran had put her foot down. She did not explain the necessities behind the marriage: Anand did not need to know about that, at least not then.

Vaseem Khan, The Unexpected Inheritance of Inspector Chopra, 2015

Excerpt 15

'This is a humiliation D'Souza cannot stomach. He thinks that by stealing the bust he will undermine the Vatican's faith in us. Perhaps even tilt the odds in his favour.'

Vaseem Khan, The Perplexing Theft of the Jewel in the Crown, 2016

Excerpt 16

The authors of the Crowther Committee Report of 1971 saw no benefit in controlling credit, though it would be socially harmful for money-lenders to risk lending money, at the high interest rates which would bring them a commercial profit, to anyone unlikely to be able to pay it back. Their main conclusion was that on balance credit is beneficial, since it makes a useful contribution to the living standards and the economic and social well-being of the majority of British people.

Hugh Barty-King, The Worst Poverty: a History of Debt and Debtors, 1991, BNC

Excerpt 17

'How would it be if they decided to camp outside your door for the next seven days?'

'What? My God, why would they do that?'

'Because the leader of the protest is a friend of mine.' Chopra glared at the man. 'How do you think your sales figures will fare then?'

Vaseem Khan, The Perplexing Theft of the Jewel in the Crown, 2016

Excerpt 18

I was expecting to see rows and rows of beds, but it wasn't like that. There were alcoves with armchairs – two men playing draughts at a table – women with handbags, visitors I suppose, sitting with cups of coffee and talking to men.

Alison Leonard, Gate-Crashing the Dream Party, 1990, BNC

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SUBJECT:

"There is an old story of a man who was asked, presumably by a grammarian, whether *pants* was singular or plural. His reply was, 'Well, mine are plural at the bottom, and singular at the top.' Ultimately, the confusion, which many others have also felt, rests not so much in the shape of the garment as in the grammar of English. The object named is as clearly one entity as, say, a shirt or a coat. This does not matter; by a convention of English, *pants* is plural. Interestingly enough, this is not an isolated case; compare *trousers*, *breeches*, *shorts*, *slacks*, etc. This whole group of words are grammatically plural with no evident semantic justification."

Henry Allan GLEASON, An Introduction to Descriptive Linguistics. New York: Holt, 1955, p. 145.

Discuss.

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We offer what you simply can't find in the shops. Maternity clothes with real style and individuality – at very reasonable prices. A complete range, including trousers, shirts, leggings, dresses, jeans, tracksuits, swimwear and more.

Adverts from Clothes Show, 1991, BNC

Excerpt 2

He made his way to the Millets outdoor specialist shop on Sauchiehall Street and bought himself a nice two-man tent, a blow-up mattress, a sleeping bag, a lightweight ex-army rucksack, two tracksuits, two T-shirts, three pairs of socks, a pair of light trekker shoes, five pairs of underpants, a towel, a toilet bag, and a couple of rolls of toilet paper.

Ernie Hasler, Brexit Demise of Great Britain, 2018

Excerpt 3

Although oats, barley, rye, and even wheat have been grown (sometimes successfully) in cold, wet areas and at high altitudes, the chances of a good harvest are very much reduced in such conditions.

Sedley Sweeny, The Challenge of Smallholding, 1985, BNC

Excerpt 4

Sprinkle used coffee grounds around your plants to protect them against destructive garden pests like ants, snails, and slugs.

Natural Living Ideas, < www.naturallivingideas.com >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 5

A pair of binoculars is nothing more than two small refractors joined together. The main advantage is that the observer can use both eyes instead of only one. The field of view will be much wider than that of a small astronomical telescope, and the binoculars are handier, so that they can be carried around very easily.

Patrick Moore, Exploring the Night Sky with Binoculars, 1990, BNC

Excerpt 6

"Most people would think, 'A pair of pajamas? What good would that do a child?" said Jen Vincent. For about 40 kids who lost their homes [...], getting something new meant just for them means a lot.

Kait8, < www.kait8.com >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 7

When the selected pile alone remained, he switched on a powerful reading spotlamp above the table, took a jeweller's loupe from his pocket, a pair of tweezers in his right hand, and held up the first stone to the light.

Frederick Forsyth, The Negotiator, 1989, BNC

Excerpt 8

Europe's human rights court on Thursday ordered Italy to pay Amanda Knox financial damages for police failure to provide legal assistance and a translator during a long night of questioning following the Nov. C1, 2007 murder of her British roommate.

NBC News, < www.nbcnews.com >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 9

Do your research on the archives on the campus, the communities around it and the networks that would benefit your research (and their department) were you to get the job.

Inside Higher Ed, "Another Year on the Academic Job Market", 26/07/2017, COCA

Excerpt 10

There is nothing better for a fan of sewing than a pair of scissors that glides smoothly through thick and thin fabrics. [...] This set of sewing scissors is simply divine. Sold as a pack of two scissors, they do a great job of cutting fabrics without mutilating them.

Milan Clothing, < www.milanclothing.com >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 11

In some cases items may be specified on the policy as a pair or a set e.g. a pair of earrings. In such case we must treat the pair as one insured item and if a repair or replacement of the lost/damaged item is not possible the insured is entitled to the sum insured for the pair or set.

Miscellaneous papers, 1985-1994, BNC

Excerpt 12

If Russell Seitz sounds a little weird, he is. But not for Harvard, a place where you're judged by your brains, not by your eccentricities.

CBS, "Sixty Minutes", 1992, COCA

Excerpt 13

People may have five televisions, one in each room, but acoustics have not changed in 40 years.

Daily Telegraph, 05/04/1992, BNC

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Acoustics is a multidisciplinary field – a wide range of companies employ acousticians in different roles.

Solent University Southampton, < www.solent.ac.uk/courses >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 15

That guy is pretty cool. Charming. Funny. Hot. They liked his looks. His looks would always matter, even when it was about his size, his speed. No one much debated his looks, so he came to forget them.

Esquire, "Channing Tatum Did Not See This Coming", Dec. 2014, COCA

Excerpt 16

What would happen if you were to lose your glasses? How long would it be before you'd be able to get a new pair?

Pro Eye, < www.proeyeonline.com >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 17

Norway's Flørli Power Station is the starting point for the best hikes around the town of Lysefjord—and its stairs will make you gasp for two reasons. First, there are 4,444 steps that ascend a staggering 2,427 feet from the bottom.

CNN Travel, < https://edition.cnn.com/travel >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 18

Once you've made your decision, buy the finest garden shears you can afford. They aren't cheap, but with proper care, they will last for many years.

Gardening, < www.gardeningknowhow.com >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 19

Milupa, maker of the newly-introduced Aptamil with Milupan – recommended by the professor – claims it contains the same fatty acids that occur naturally in breast milk and which are crucial to the development of the baby's brain.

Belfast Telegraph, 1985-1994, BNC

Excerpt 20

Having seen how it is possible to tell a story within a particular sequence, let's take a step back to consider how this might be made to relate to the story of a whole day on the sands. It begins with the arrival at the beach, the spreading of towels and the erection of wind-shields and so on after which the beach activities begin including the incident covered by the 'runaway toddler' sequence.

Keith Brookes, The Complete Video Course, 1989, BNC

Excerpt 21

Peaches do best in well drained, loose, sandy soil and need heavy feeding. Crack the stone with nutcrackers carefully to avoid smashing the seed, and plant the seed four inches deep.

Mother Earth News, "Seed scrounging", Nov/Dec. 1990, COCA

Excerpt 22

Trying to get in shape? Then don't depend on your bathroom scales.

Web MD, < www.webmd.com >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 23

He rarely paid attention to his bathroom scale. He regularly drank Coke, added sugar to his coffee, and enjoyed Big Mac Combo Meals with his kids at McDonald's.

Technology Review, "The Patient of the Future", Mar/Apr. 2012, COCA

Excerpt 24

A tandem is the most efficient family bicycle, bar none. Two adults can go faster than one adult on a solo bike.

We Are Cycling UK, < www.cyclinguk.org >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 25

Evening jackets should be double-breasted or single-breasted, with the appropriate conventional revers or lapels. [...] Your trousers, which can carry braiding down the outside seam as decoration, should be supported, however, and by braces.

Esquire, 1992

Excerpt 26

This type of hinge is also known as an invisible hinge. These hinges are made so you only see the surface of the door. They consist of two parts, which are pivots and brackets.

Monroe, < https://monroeengineering.com >, last accessed in 2019

Excerpt 27

Lucia, who died in England in December 1982, was born at Trieste in 1907. When the family were living in Paris between the world wars, Joyce worried about her promiscuity.

Daily Telegraph, 06/04/1992, BNC

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SUBJECT:

"More than grammatical categories, the 'parts of speech' are broad semantic ranges. Grammarians who fancy themselves scientific like to make fun of schoolteachers who say that nouns are 'names of things' – how foolish that is, they say, when nouns also include words like *cyclone* and *collision*, which are actions, and *anger* and *inspiration*, which are emotions, and *democracy* and *inferiority*, which are abstractions. But they forget that language is creative – an interpretation of nature, not a reflection. *Cyclone* is the name of a thing because it treats an event AS IF it were a thing. The quality of the noun is that it captures a concept on the wing and holds it still for inspection."

Dwight BOLINGER, Language, The Loaded Weapon: The Use and Abuse of Language Today. London / New York: Longman, 1980, p. 27.

Discuss.

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My mind drew back further, to the memory of his tenderness that I had carried all my life. That tenderness was more real than Hoyle himself. But now it shaped itself anew; it transformed into softness, a softness of decay, like a piece of fruit shot through with rot.

Nancy J. Allen, Calculation, 2008, COCA

Excerpt 2

She sidesteps into deflection. You are left at the center of your dilemma. If you don't confront, aren't you complicit? If you don't refute, what is your relationship to truth? If you ignore, the life of the lie takes over. Twists and turns until it can never return to its source. Near antonyms: fact, truism, verity; honesty, truthfulness, confirmation; authentication, substantiation, verification. Antonyms: truth. One refutation to the lie.

Judith Kitchen, Face to Face, 2015, COCA

Excerpt 3

In his English class, the teacher asked, What do you most believe in, and Meyer wrote, Emotions – raw, harsh, angry things people feel, say or don't say, but feel all the time; beyond which he could add nothing. He had chosen to major in Physics, but found he couldn't develop an inkling of belief in vectors. The vacuity of his mind saw only vacuity in the symbol. He quickly fled Physics.

Joe Tyennick, "Pygmalian with a Bad S", Literary Review, Vol. 47, Iss. 3, Spring 2004, COCA

Excerpt 4

Philosophical problems are not born in philosophy departments but in normal human life. I have, it is true, studied theoretical philosophy, but it is not theory that leads me to such questions. The most personal experiences, those connected with death, love, guilt, beauty, suffering, growing up and aging, childhood and motherhood, drive me to philosophy and metaphysics. But the idea becomes word through fiction, because fiction and poetry are where the concrete beauty of life is revealed.

"Lucilia illustris", Review of Contemporary Fiction, Vol. 16, Iss. 2, 1996, COCA

Excerpt 5

"But what will you do? You'll go back? You'll see him?"

That made her sit right up and stare across at me.

"What an extraordinary idea!" she said, more coldly than ever. "Of course I shall not dream of seeing him. As for going back – that is quite out of the question. I can't go back."

Katherine Mansfield, "Je ne parle pas français", Bliss, 1920

Excerpt 6

For us, there's the truth you own privately, that you deal with alone or within the strict boundaries of the family, that you protect at all cost even if it's an open secret floating around everywhere. And then there's the truth you "present" to the outside. It's not intended to deceive – this insistence on grace and elegance, this manner we have of wrapping the naked truth in layers of fine acts and gestures and words that mean one thing literally, something else entirely in the context in which they're used.

Gina B. Nahai, The Pearl Canon, 2009, COCA

Excerpt 7

But it is not doing Michael's soul any good at all, as he thinks, he is in a state of mortal sin.

David Lodge, How Far Can you Go?, 1980

Excerpt 8

We sit in the best room of the inn with a flask between us and a bowl of nuts. We do not discuss the reason for his being here. He is here under the emergency powers, that is enough. Instead we talk about hunting. He tells me about the last great drive he rode in, when thousands of deer, pigs, bears were slain, so many that a mountain of carcases had to be left to rot ("Which was a pity").

John Maxwell Coetzee, Waiting for the Barbarians, 1980

Excerpt 9

He began to think that he would get out of the ministry and try some other way of life. "I shall go to some city and get into business," he declared. "If my nature is such that I cannot resist sin, I shall give myself over to sin. At least I shall not be a hypocrite, preaching the word of God with my mind thinking of the shoulders and neck of a woman who does not belong to me."

Sherwood Anderson, "The Strength of God", Winesburg, Ohio, 1919

Excerpt 10

The door swung open at once. A tall, black-haired witch in emerald-green robes stood there. She had a very stern face and Harry's first thought was that this was not someone to cross.

J. K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Philosopher's stone, 1997

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From behind pa's leg Vardaman peers, his mouth full open and all color draining from his face into his mouth, as though he has by some means fleshed his own teeth in himself, sucking. He begins to move slowly backward from the bed, his eyes round, his pale face fading into the dusk like a piece of paper pasted on a failing wall, and so out of the door.

Pa leans above the bed in the twilight, his humped silhouette partaking of that owl-like quality of awry-feathered, disgruntled outrage within which lurks a wisdom too profound or too inert for even thought. "Durn them boys," he says.

William Faulkner, As I Lay Dying, 1930

Excerpt 12

It was due to go to jury selection soon, so she planned to review all the pertinent details. A sharp pang of sadness sliced through her as she scanned the summary. She'd consulted on the gang shooting with her first partner in homicide, her mentor, Asa Foster. He was retired at the time, but still a great resource. His death a few months ago still stung.

Janice Cantore, Burning proof, 2017, COCA

Excerpt 13

"That's pretty exciting," Siemann says, "But it's only a paper idea."

James Simpson heads a team at the Argonne National Laboratory that has already made small-scale tests of another promising technique (see diagram). Siemann calls this "a solid idea" that could be practical in 10 to 15 years.

"Scientists Pursue Super Accelerators", Christian Science Monitor, 1990, COCA

Excerpt 14

"Stanley, would you light a candle?"

And she heard his joyful voice answer: "Of course I will, my darling." And he leapt out of bed as though he were going to leap at the moon for her.

It had never been so plain to her as it was as this moment. There were all her feelings for him, sharp and defined, one as true as the other. And there was this other, this hatred, just as real as the rest. She could have done her feelings up in little packets and given them to Stanley. She longed to hand him that last one, for a surprise. She could see his eyes as he opened that....

Katherine Mansfield, "Prelude", The Complete Works of Katherine Mansfield, [1918] 2012

Excerpt 15

Guiliani: I understand what's going on. I grew up in the city all of my life. And [...] what I don't allow to happen is, I don't allow other people to determine my view of myself. I have a pretty solid idea of what I'm doing, and why I'm doing it.

"The Best of Interviews with Rudolph Giuliani", CNN KingWknd, 2001, COCA

Excerpt 16

As I did so I became suddenly and agonisingly aware of the nearness of the carrion thing, whose hideous hollow breathing I half fancied I could hear. Nearly mad, I found myself yet able to throw out a hand to ward off the foetid apparition which pressed so close; when in one cataclysmic second of cosmic nightmarishness and hellish accident my fingers touched the rotting outstretched paw of the monster beneath the golden arc.

H. P. Lovecraft, "The Outsider", The Complete Weird Tales of H. P. Lovecraft, [1926] 2015

Excerpt 17

Usually when you think of children you think of joyfulness.

"Impact of Terror", CNN Presents, 2004, COCA

Excerpt 18

Then the mists shifted and drew apart and I saw that behind them lay only darkness. A void of nothingness. It looked as though my steed and I were racing toward the edge of the world.

Laurien Berenson, Live and Let Growl, 2017, COCA

Excerpt 19

I haven't had a chance to have the conversation directly [with] the president. I have since had the conversation with him right before I walked on today. And he laid it out very clearly. He had already made that decision. And the recommendation that he got from the deputy attorney general just further solidified his decision.

"PBS NewsHour for May 11, 2017", PBS NewsHour, 2017, COCA