

Three types of IHRCs in Korean and their interpretations

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In this paper, I claim that an internally-headed relative clause (=IHRC) in Korean gets the meaning of a property of things, like an externally-headed relative clause, by the operation of existential disclosure. In Korean, there are three types of IHRCs that have different structural and semantic characteristics. One type of IHRCs denote properties of stages of individuals, and in such constructions, no individual-level predicates are allowed in the IHRCs or their embedding clauses. A second type contain predicates which have affected arguments which give rise to new entities. Such IHRCs denote properties of the new entities. A third type have indefinite internal heads and denote properties of individuals which the internal heads range over. IHRCs modify the defective noun \emph{kes}, the use of which presupposes that the NPs denote things, not people. Together with this presupposition, the distribution of the three types of IHRCs is restricted by the condition that subject NPs with an IHRC must denote individuals, while object NPs with an IHRC can denote stages as well as individuals. The noun \emph{kes} just nominalizes an IHRC and the NP is interpreted as definite or indefinite by free type-shifting operations. I also discuss how the relatedness condition selects the internal head of an IHRC.