Group assignment

In this assignment, you are presented with a number of reduced (hypothetical) datasets.

Each dataset comes with a number of constructions that stand in a specific relation to each other within and across languages. For each construction, I provide the set of contexts it appears in. This should allow you to establish how the different constructions relate to each other.

Question 1

Describe the relations between the different constructions for each dataset.

Question 2

Think of real constructions that you expect to pattern like the constructions in the different datasets.

By way of illustration, I provide model answers for the first dataset.

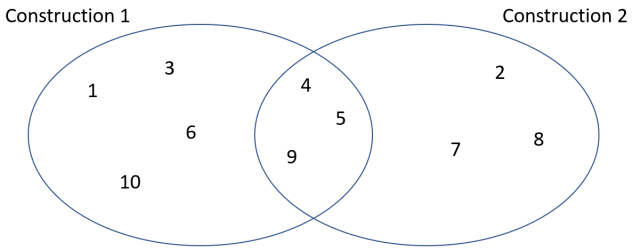
Dataset 1

Language A
> Construction 1 appears in contexts 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10
Language B
> Construction 2 appears in contexts 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9

Question 1

Constructions 1 and 2 show overlap in the contexts they appear in, but this overlap is clearly not complete. They are thus semantically related, but they are far from being synonyms.

The following figure graphically represents the relations between the two constructions:



Question 2

Concrete examples of constructions that I expect to exhibit this particular relation are English *to* and French *à*:

I'm going *to* Paris.	Je vais *à* Paris.
He did it *to* make his mom happy.	*Il l'a fait *à* faire plaisir à sa mère.
*This car is *to* me.	Cette voiture est *à* moi.

Dataset 2

Language A

> Construction 1 appears in contexts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

Language B

> Construction 2 appears in contexts 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9

> Construction 3 appears in contexts 1, 3, 6, 10

Dataset 3

Language A

> Construction 1 appears in contexts 14, 20

Language B

> Construction 2 appears in contexts 2, 3, 6, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 19, 20

Language C

> Construction 3 appears in contexts 6, 12, 14, 20

Language D

> Construction 4 appears in contexts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20

Dataset 4

Language A

> Construction 1 appears in contexts 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17, 20

> Construction 2 appears in contexts 3, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19

Language B

> Construction 3 appears in contexts 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 11, 12, 13, 15, 19, 20

> Construction 4 appears in contexts 2, 5, 7, 9, 10, 14, 16, 17, 18

Dataset 5

Language A

> Construction 1 appears in contexts 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 14, 17, 19

> Construction 2 appears in contexts 8, 13, 15, 16, 20

> Construction 3 appears in contexts 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, 18

Language B

> Construction 4 appears in contexts 2, 6, 8, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20

> Construction 5 appears in contexts 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 17, 18

> Construction 6 appears in contexts 5, 10, 11, 12