

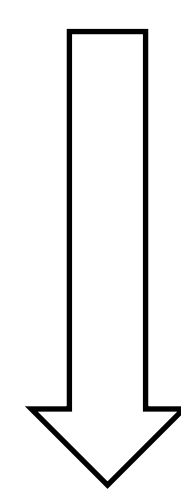
• Example of the analysed construction

Qui [tu penses qu'] il **appelle** ?
Who [do you think] he **is calling**?

- “Bridge” = between the verb and its complement
- Difficulty of processing: to connect the complement with the appropriate verb (problem of memory, ambiguity, etc.)
- Validated hypothesis: Correlation between the size of the bridge and the syntactic connection

Number of words of the bridge	Unambiguous syntactic connection	
5	4/4 occ	100%
4	11/12 occ	91,6%
3	27/31 occ	87%
2	117/182 occ	64,2%

Long but unambiguous



Short but ambiguous

Number of syllables of the bridge	Unambiguous syntactic connection	
13	1/1 occ	100%
7	3/3 occ	100%
6	10/10 occ	100%
5	8/10 occ	80%
4	14/18 occ	77,7%
3	52/88 occ	59%
2	71/99 occ	71,7%

Examples

*En application du paragraphe 11 [...], la Commission indique ci-après, pour chaque sujet, les points **sur lesquels il pourrait être particulièrement intéressant** que les gouvernements **expriment leurs vues** [...].*
 Pursuant to paragraph 11 [...] the Commission states for each subject below the points **on which it could be particularly interesting** that governments **express their views** (law)

5 words, 13 syllables, unambiguous

A: *et c'est **pour ça** qu'il a fallu que **j'aille** au au à l'informatique* (spoken)
 And that's **why it took me** to **go** to the computer

3 words, 4 syllables, unambiguous

*Otto Kranz est loin de tout contrôler, contrairement à **ce qu'il souhaite que** vous **pensiez**.* (Theater)
 Otto Kranz is far from any control, contrary to **what he wants** you to **think**.

2 words, 2 syllables, ambiguous