

Examples of RTT Questions by Semantic Categories¹

Category	Example text	Question
1. Participant as Actor	My father bought a cow.	Who bought a cow?
2. Participant as Goal	My father bought my mother some flowers.	Who did his father buy flowers for?
3. Object as Goal	We stood on the corner waiting for the bus.	What were they waiting for?
4. Description of Condition	The house was old and in need of paint.	What was the house like?
5. Description of Character	The man was not to be trusted.	What was the man like?
6. Specific Event	When I tried to milk the cow, the milk spilled on the ground.	What happened when he tried to milk the cow?
7. Ground (or explanation) of event	The flowers wilted because he hadn't put them in water.	Why did the flowers wilt?
8. Purpose	I went to the barn to milk the cow.	Why did he go to the barn?
9. Result	An insect bit the cow and she kicked over the bucket of milk.	What happened when an insect bit the cow?
10.Cause	An insect bit the cow and she kicked over the bucket of milk.	What caused the cow to kick over the bucket of milk?
11.Time	One morning, as I was milking the cow, the milk spilled on the ground.	When was he milking the cow?

¹ Originally prepared by Dr. M. Paul Lewis for Language Survey course, SIL Horsleys Green, 1992. Categories cited from: Casad, Eugene. 1974 Dialect intelligibility testing. Dallas: Summer Institute of Linguistics.

Category**Example text****Question**

12.Instrument

I carried the milk to the house in an old army helmet.

What did he use to carry the milk to the house?

13.Quantity

We arrived home with two bags full of oranges.

How many bags of oranges did they have when they arrived home?

14.Quotative

My mother said I should be careful with it.

What did his mother say?

15.Manner

I put it on the shelf very carefully.

How did he put it on the shelf?

16.Location

I put it on the shelf very carefully.

Where did he put it?