

# **Compiler Design – UNIT II**

## **MOST IMPORTANT 14-MARK QUESTIONS**

 **Easy + Detailed + RGPV Exam Writing Style**

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### **Q1. Explain Syntax Analysis with Diagram.**

 **Answer:**

#### **Introduction**

Syntax Analysis is the second phase of a compiler.

It checks whether the sequence of tokens follows the grammar rules of the programming language.

Syntax Analyzer is also called:

Parser

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#### **Diagram**

Tokens



Syntax Analyzer



Parse Tree

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## **Functions of Syntax Analyzer**

- ✓ Checks grammatical correctness
  - ✓ Generates parse tree
  - ✓ Detects syntax errors
  - ✓ Sends information to semantic analyzer
- 

## **Example**

Correct statement:

```
int a;
```

Incorrect statement:

```
int ;
```

Parser reports syntax error.

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## Advantages

- ✓ Detects syntax errors
  - ✓ Helps in program structure checking
  - ✓ Simplifies semantic analysis
- 

## Conclusion

Syntax Analysis is an important compiler phase that checks program structure according to grammar rules.

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## Q2. Explain CFG with Parse Tree.

### Answer:

## Definition

CFG (Context Free Grammar) is used to describe the syntax of a programming language.

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## Components of CFG

Symbol	Meaning
V	Variables
T	Terminals
P	Production Rules
S	Start Symbol

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# Example of CFG

$E \rightarrow E + T$

$E \rightarrow T$

$T \rightarrow id$

---

## Parse Tree

For:

id + id

Parse Tree:

```
      E
     /\
    E + T
   |  |
   T  id
   |
  id
```

---

## Advantages

- Defines language syntax
- Used in parser design

✓ Detects syntax errors

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## **Conclusion**

CFG helps in defining the grammatical structure of programming languages.

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## **Q3. Explain Top Down Parsing.**

### **Answer:**

## **Definition**

Top Down Parsing constructs the parse tree from:

Root → Leaf

It starts from the start symbol and tries to derive the input string.

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## **Working**

Start Symbol

↓

Production Rules

↓

Input String

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## Example

Grammar:

$S \rightarrow aAB$

$A \rightarrow b$

$B \rightarrow c$

Input:

abc

---

## Advantages

- Easy to implement
  - Simple parsing technique
- 

## Disadvantages

- Backtracking problem
  - Cannot handle left recursion
- 

## Conclusion

Top Down Parsing is a simple parsing technique used to generate parse trees from root to leaf.

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## Q4. Explain Recursive Descent Parsing.

 **Answer:**

 **Definition**

Recursive Descent Parsing is a top down parsing technique in which:

Each non-terminal has a recursive function

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## Example Grammar

$E \rightarrow T + E$

$E \rightarrow T$

$T \rightarrow id$

---

## Recursive Function

```
void E()  
{  
    T();  
}
```

## Advantages

- ✓ Easy coding
  - ✓ Suitable for small grammars
- 

## Disadvantages

- ✗ Backtracking issue
  - ✗ Cannot handle left recursive grammar
- 

## Conclusion

Recursive Descent Parsing uses recursive procedures for parsing grammar rules.

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## Q5. Explain Predictive Parsing.

### Answer:

### Definition

Predictive Parsing is a top down parsing technique that does not use backtracking.

It predicts the correct production rule using:

- FIRST set
  - FOLLOW set
-

# Diagram

Input String



Predictive Parser



Parse Tree

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# Parsing Table

Non-Terminal	Input Symbol	Production
E	id	$E \rightarrow TE'$

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# Advantages

- Fast parsing
  - No backtracking
  - Efficient parsing
- 

# Disadvantages

- Cannot handle left recursive grammar
- 

# Conclusion

Predictive Parsing improves parsing efficiency by eliminating backtracking.

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## Q6. Explain Bottom Up Parsing.

 **Answer:**

 **Definition**

Bottom Up Parsing constructs parse tree from:

Leaf → Root

It reduces the input string to the start symbol.

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 **Working**

Input String

↓

Reduction Process

↓

Start Symbol

---

 **Shift Reduce Operations**

Operation	Meaning
Shift	Push input into stack
Reduce	Apply grammar rule

Operation	Meaning
Accept	Successful parsing
Error	Invalid string

---

## Advantages

- ✓ Efficient parsing
  - ✓ Handles large grammars
- 

## Disadvantages

- ✗ Complex implementation
- 

## Conclusion

Bottom Up Parsing reduces input strings into start symbols using grammar rules.

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## Q7. Explain Operator Precedence Parser.

### Answer:

### Definition

Operator Precedence Parser uses operator priority and associativity for parsing expressions.

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## Example

Expression:

$a + b * c$

First evaluated:

$b * c$

Then:

$a + \text{result}$

---

## Working

Uses precedence table to determine:

- Shift
  - Reduce operations
- 

## Advantages

- Fast expression parsing
  - Easy implementation
- 

## Disadvantages

✗ Cannot handle all grammars

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## Conclusion

Operator Precedence Parser is mainly used for arithmetic expression parsing.

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## Q8. Explain LR Parser and its Types.

 Answer:

## Definition

LR Parser is the most powerful bottom up parser.

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## Meaning of LR

Symbol	Meaning
L	Left to Right scanning
R	Rightmost derivation

---

## Types of LR Parser

Parser	Full Form
SLR	Simple LR
LALR	Look Ahead LR
CLR	Canonical LR

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## SLR Parser

Simple version of LR parser.

### Features:

- Small parsing table
  - Easy implementation
- 

## LALR Parser

Most commonly used parser.

### Features:

- Smaller table than CLR
  - More powerful than SLR
- 

## CLR Parser

Most powerful LR parser.

### Features:

- Large parsing table
  - Better error handling
- 

## Advantages

- Efficient parsing
- Handles large grammars

✓ Detects syntax errors

---

## **Disadvantages**

✗ Complex design

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## **Conclusion**

LR parsers are powerful bottom up parsers used in compiler construction.

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## **Q9. Explain Syntax Directed Definition (SDD).**

 **Answer:**

## **Definition**

Syntax Directed Definition combines:

Grammar + Semantic Rules

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## **Uses**

- ✓ Syntax tree construction
  - ✓ Type checking
  - ✓ Translation process
- 

## Example

$E \rightarrow E1 + T$   
 $E.val = E1.val + T.val$

---

## Advantages

- ✓ Supports semantic analysis
  - ✓ Easy translation
- 

## Conclusion

SDD is used for syntax directed translation and semantic processing.

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## Q10. Explain S-Attributed and L-Attributed Definition.

 Answer:

## S-Attributed Definition

## Definition

Uses only:

Synthesized Attributes

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## Features

- Used in bottom up parsing
  - Easy evaluation
- 

## Example

$E \rightarrow E1 + T$   
 $E.val = E1.val + T.val$

---

## L-Attributed Definition

### Definition

Uses:

Inherited + Synthesized Attributes

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## Features

- ✓ Used in top down parsing
  - ✓ More flexible
- 

## Difference

S-Attributed	L-Attributed
Uses synthesized attributes only	Uses inherited and synthesized attributes
Bottom up parsing	Top down parsing

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## Conclusion

S-attributed and L-attributed definitions are used for semantic rule evaluation.

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## Q11. Explain Syntax Tree Construction.

### Answer:

### Definition

A Syntax Tree is a tree representation of program structure.

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## Example

Expression:

a + b \* c

---

## Syntax Tree

```
      +
     / \
    a  *
       / \
      b  c
```

---

## Construction Steps

1. Identify operators
  2. Create tree nodes
  3. Arrange according to precedence
- 

## Advantages

- Easy expression representation
  - Used in semantic analysis
  - Helps code generation
- 

## Conclusion

Syntax Tree represents expressions in hierarchical tree form for compiler processing.