

12. Reciprocals

As with reflexives, English has lexical and analytic reciprocals, though there is never ambiguity between the two. Certain English verbs can be classified as lexical reciprocals in that when a direct object is omitted and the subject is plural, the normal interpretation is reciprocal:

- (95) a. John kissed Mary. 'Juán besó a María.'
Juán besar: PAS María
- b. John and Mary kissed. 'Juán y María se besaron.'
Juán y María besar: PAS
- (96) a. John fought Mary. 'Juán peleó con María.'
Juán pelear: PAS María
- b. John and Mary fought. 'Juán y María se pelearon.'
Juán y María pelear: PAS

Examples 95b and 96b are the lexical reciprocals of 95a and 96a respectively.

Analytic reciprocals are formed with the special nominal *each other* in the position of the direct object:

- (97) a. We saw **each other** 'Nos vimos uno a otro.'
1PL ver: PAS RECIP
- b. John and Mary hugg-ed **each other**
Juán y María abrazar- PAS RECIP
'Juán y María se abrazaron.'

Like analytic reflexives, analytic reciprocals in English do not reduce grammatical valence.