BOOTLEG PRIMATE

Liam Thomas
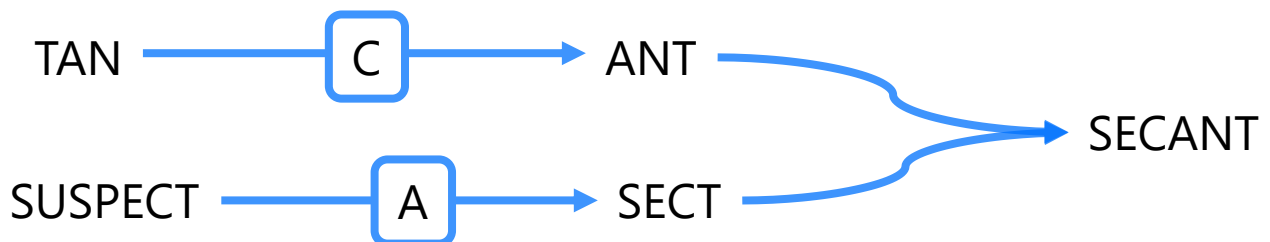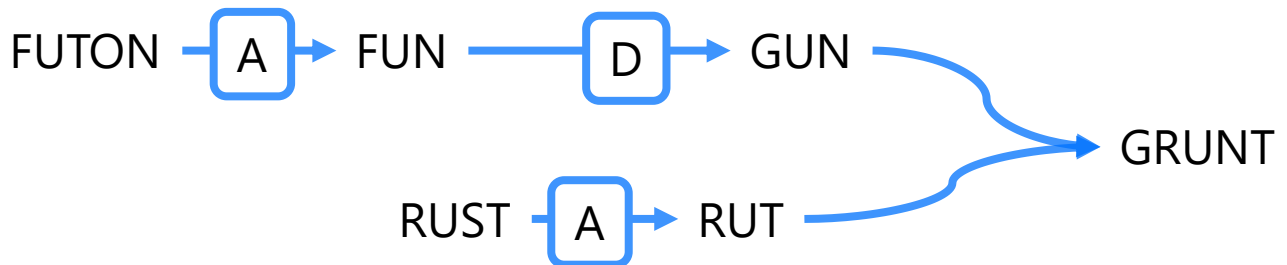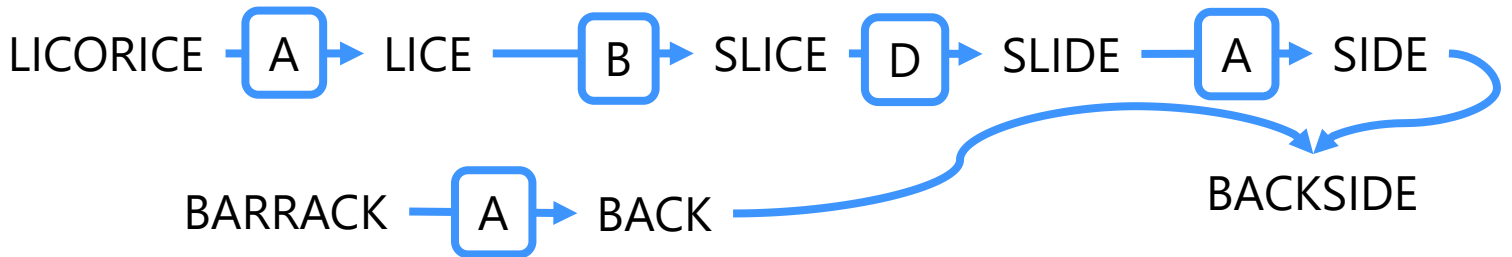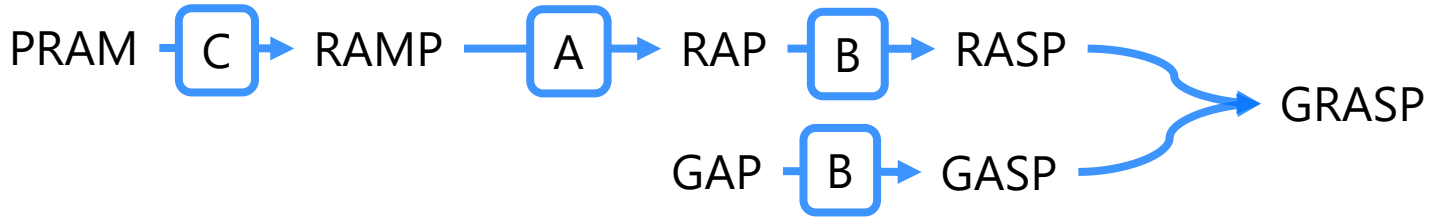
Note that all of the words used are nouns.
Machine A removes some number of letters from the middle of a word, leaving either end intact. Machine B adds an S to a word. Machine C moves the first letter of a word to the end. Machine D increments a letter: that is, sends it to the next letter of the alphabet. When combining words, all letters from both of the input words remain in the same order in the result, and any letters that appear in both words only appear once in the result.

FUTON → A → FUN → D → GUN
RUST → A → RUT
GUN, RUT → GRUNT

TAN → C → ANT
SUSPECT → A → SECT
ANT, SECT → SECANT

EAR → B → SEAR → D → TEAR → D → TEAS → C → EAST

BOOTLEG PRIMATE

PRAM → [C] → RAMP → [A] → RAP → [B] → RASP

GAP → [B] → GASP

RASP + GASP → GRASP

LICORICE → [A] → LICE → [B] → SLICE → [D] → SLIDE → [A] → SIDE

BARRACK → [A] → BACK

BACK + SIDE → BACKSIDE

These words do not produce valid English words when any of the transformations A, B, C, or D are applied.

DEER

TOOTH

TAPS

GLASS

BOOTLEG PRIMATE

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VAULT —[A]→ VAT

ARTICLE —[A]→ ALE

VALET [A]→ VET —[B]→ VEST

HARVEST

PHI —[C]→ HIP —[B]→ SHIP

YARD

SHIPYARD [A] SHARD [D] SHARE [C] HARES