Overview of topics
Chris Potts, Ling 130a/230a: Introduction to semantics and pragmatics, Winter 2021
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1 Kinds of meaning

For any given utterance, we can ask

- What does it claim, ask, demand, …?
- What does it presuppose?
- What does it suggest or imply?
- What are its connotations?

2 Entailment

Arrow: entailment (if an arrow goes one way, it does not go the other)

(1) a. Sandy danced.  
   b. Sandy waltzed.
(2) a. Sandy didn’t dance.  
   b. Sandy didn’t waltz.
(3) a. A student danced.  
   b. A Swedish student danced.  
   c. A student waltzed.
(4) a. No student danced.  
   b. No Swedish student danced.  
   c. No student waltzed.
(5) a. Every student danced.  
   b. Every Swedish student danced.  
   c. Every student waltzed.
(6) a. Exactly three students danced.  
   b. Exactly three Swedish students danced.  
   c. Exactly three students waltzed.
(7) a. Few students danced.  
   b. Few Swedish students danced.  
   c. Few students waltzed.

Try with most, not every, only, a minority of.