Only explorations
Chris Potts, Ling 230b: Advanced semantics and pragmatics, Spring 2016
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(1) For $\varphi : (\sigma_1, \ldots, \sigma_n, t)$, $\left[\text{only}_{(\sigma_1, \ldots, \sigma_n, t)} \varphi \right]^0 =$

(2)  

a. Sandy only ran$_{FOC}$.

b. # Sandy only ran. (no accent anywhere)
(3)  

a. Sandy only met_{FOC} Jesse.

b. Sandy met only Jesse_{FOC}.

c. Sandy only met Jesse_{FOC}.
(4) a. \[ \text{[introduce]}^o = \left[ \begin{array}{c} \mathcal{w}_1 \mapsto \{ \langle a, b, c \rangle, \langle a, d, c \rangle \} \\ \mathcal{w}_2 \mapsto \{ \langle a, b, c \rangle, \langle a, b, d \rangle \} \end{array} \right] \]

b. \( a \) only introduced \( b_{\text{FOC}} \) to \( c \)

c. \( a \) only introduced \( b \) to \( c_{\text{FOC}} \)
Adapted from (Beaver & Clark 2008:§10):

(5) a. I really expected a suite but only got a single room with 2 beds.
   b. #I really expected a single room with 2 beds but only got a suite.

(6) a. Issue: What celebrity signatures did Brady get at the Philosophy of Language party?
   b. Brady only got a Soames_{FOC}.
   c. Ranking (highest to lowest): (Lewis, Putman, Soames, Beaver, Clark, Chomsky, Potts)

Some recent and foundational work on only


