

In class on Tuesday 1/30, we observed corpus examples of the use of *shallow* in the attributive adjective construction. (The complete set of examples is below.) The nouns that are modified by *shallow* include some that designate containers, such as *pool* and *teacup*. This makes sense, intuitively, if the notion of a container is evoked by *shallow* (i.e. is part of the semantics of the term).

However, the head nouns also include things like *breath(s)*, *end*, *frying*, and *water*. (You can ignore *missions*.)

Explain how these head nouns are semantically compatible with *shallow*, given its meaning, even though they do not actually designate containers. The concept of profiling will be helpful. You can use any other cognitive semantic concepts that help you describe or explain.

I assume this explanation can be done in a couple of paragraphs. You can use any diagrams you want to help explain, but not as a substitute for explanation.

### Data

Exhaustive set of examples from subcorpus of SPOKEN English (10 million words in subcorpus) from the BNC.

...I don't feel any deep breaths or shallow breaths...

...the way I suppose in the shallow end and Andrew he didn't want her ...

... diving board, er, and a deep end and a, and a shallow end for kids.

... no the shallow end, any way I'm gonna clear off now...

... Deep frying is a lot actually is a lot better than shallow frying ...

... missions as, Hanover, Berlin and then there were those shallow missions to North Africa and, and of Russia. ...

... . What will happen there, if you've got a shallow pool and a couple of deep pools and the sun is shining ...

... for six months, winter months, erm and erm managed a shallow pool which erm wasn't what I had envisaged at all, but ...

... the, the socket bit is very shallow, like a shallow tea cup and the hip, the leg bone doesn't stay in ...

... will be influenced by things like the tide, obstacles like shallow water or other boats and by wind shifts and wind shadows

... sideways more with the daggerboard up but as you come into shallow water then you can raise the rudder and step ashore.

... They could, in fact, be located offshore in shallow water, and lying on the beach watching these large structures ...

... those rocks. Then as before, step out to the shallow water, lift out the daggerboard, raise the rudder completely ...

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The property *shallow* is grounded in the domain of three-dimensional space. The base is a [CONTAINER] with a bottom. When we apply the lexical item *shallow* as an attributive adjective to describe a physical container such as a pool or a teacup, it refers to the amount of spatial extension downwards measured from the top to the bottom viewed in terms of how an amount that is less than some notion of the norm spatial depth for the container. Hence the profile of *shallow* can be said to be a relation between the amount of extension downwards and some amount deemed to be the norm.

Head nouns do not have to explicitly be containers. A container that can be described as *shallow* typically has some sort of liquid as its content, e.g., water. Instead of profiling in terms of the physical depth of the container as described above, another image of *shallow* profiles this content instead, i.e., the relation between the level the liquid reaches from the bottom of the container and some norm depth. What is retained from the previous image is the idea of there being a norm amount of physical extension from the surface or top, to the bottom. That content in a physical container can be viewed as *shallow* can be metaphorically extended to non-liquid entities in non-physical containers, such as ‘breath’, i.e., how much your air fills your lungs with each breath. Another image of *shallow* is to have as the base, the entire concept of physical extension downwards in a container, and to profile an action that requires a certain depth of liquid in the container. An example is ‘frying’. What is construed as *shallow frying* shallow is basically related to the level of oil in the pan when frying.