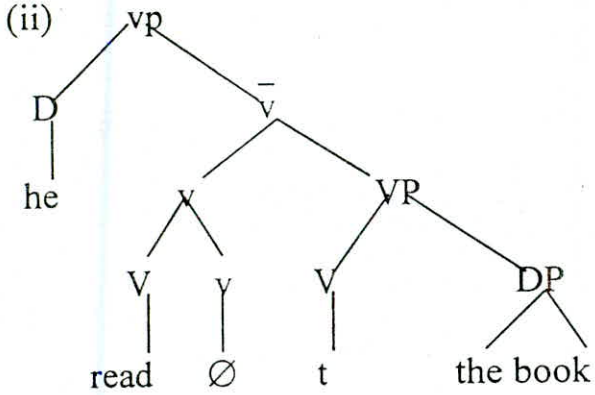
agentive light verb ∅ which has a performative sense" (209) i.e. *he performed the action of book-reading)*).

19.

(i) He read the book.

(ii)



Chomsky's light verb analysis of two -place transitive predicates may be extended to account for the syntax of the class of verbs called **unergative predictes**, "which have agentive subjects , but which appear to have no complements" (209), as shown in (20).

20.

(i) They are lunching.
(ii) He was lying.
(iii) Don't fuss!

Such verbs obviously pose problems to the assumption that subjects originate in spec-VP and merge with a V-bar which is itself formed by merger of a verb with its complements. However, **unergative** verbs "have close paraphrases involving an overt light verb (i.e. a verb such as *have, make* etc. which