Puzzle 3: *weigh 6kgs*

If submitting for <u>feedback</u>, submit electronically via QM+ on Monday, **13 February 2023 by 11.55pm**

If submitting for <u>assessment</u>, submit electronically via QM+ on Thursday, **20 April 2023 by 11.55pm**

Consider the following sentence:

(1) The cats weigh 6kgs

Sentence (1) is ambiguous. To see this, consider a situation in which there are three cats, Lupi, Miss Marple and Lolo. According to one reading of the sentence, which we will call *distributive*, each of Lupi, Miss Marple and Lolo weighs 6kgs, so that together they weigh 18kgs (6x3 = 18). According to the other reading, which we will call *collective*, the three cats together weigh 6kgs: for example, Lupi weighs 2kgs, Miss Marple weighs 3kgs, and Lolo weighs 1kg (2+3+1 = 6). The sentence can be disambiguated using *each* and *together*:

(2) The cats weigh 6kgs each (only distributive reading)
(3) The cats weigh 6kgs together (only collective reading)

Provide an analysis of the readings of (1) using the tools given to you in class. What is ambiguous in (1)? What sort of VP is *weigh 6kgs*? Why do *each* and *together* disambiguate?

Treat *weigh 6kgs* as an unanalyzed VP, that is, do not worry about how *weigh* and *6kgs* compose together to give you a meaning. You will then have to provide ⟦**weigh 6kgs**⟧^{s}, but <u>not</u> ⟦**weigh**⟧^{s} or ⟦**6kgs**⟧^{s}.

Please note: you are <u>not</u> being asked to provide a detailed analysis of *each* or *together*. A brief description of what they do that ties in with your analysis of ⟦**weigh 6kgs**⟧^{s} is sufficient

Note on providing background. When you provide an analysis, make sure you introduce the tools you will be using. In the case at hand, that means (briefly) summarizing the analysis proposed in class to account for distributive and collective predicates.

Note on word count. Examples, definitions, tests, etc. do not count towards the word count. You should aim for 600-700 words of prose per puzzle.