

Syntax 2

Homework 1: Raising & Control

Due 10/04

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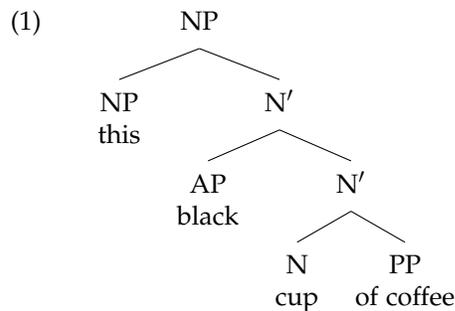
1 Phrase Structure (20 pts)

A. (20 points) Draw the S-Structure trees for the following sentences. Use constituency tests if you're unsure about the constituency of some phrase.

- a. The donut was eaten by Dale
- b. Margaret said that Hawk knew the answer
- c. Harry intently listened to the soft voice of the mynah bird¹
- d. Diane read the text message from Cooper²

2 One-Replacement and the DP Hypothesis (40 pts)

B. (10 points) Recall that part of our argument for the presence of X' -levels was the *one*-replacement test. If we assume that determiners and possessors are specifiers to NP, then we can say that *one*-replacement is an operation that replaces N' -levels



- (2) James ordered [_{NP} this [_{N'} black [_{N'} [_N cup] [_{PP} of coffee]]]], and ...
- a. Maddy ordered [_{NP} that [_{N'} nice [_{N'} [_N glass] [_{PP} of Cherry Coke]]]]

¹Treat *mynah bird* as a single N^0

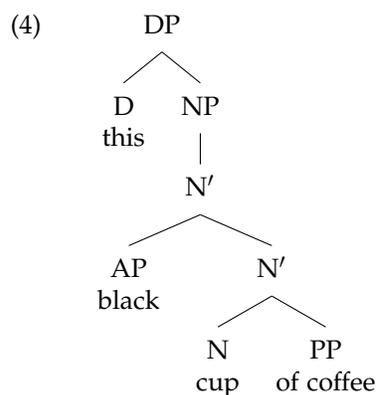
²Treat *Cooper* as a single DP; you can “triangle” it

- b. *Maddy ordered [_{NP} that [_{N'} nice [_{N'} [_N one] [_{PP} of Cherry Coke]]]]
- c. Maddy ordered [_{NP} that [_{N'} nice [_{N'} one]]]
- d. Maddy ordered [_{NP} that [_{N'} one]]

Now, examine the following sentence. Does our generalization still hold up? If not, how might we modify it to account it?

- (3) James ordered this black cup of coffee, and Maddy ordered [_{NP} one] (too).

C. (10 points) Now, let's update our generalization by assuming the DP hypothesis. The representation of nominals that we'll use is given below:



- (5) James ordered [_{DP} this [_{NP} [_{N'} black [_{N'} [_N cup] [_{PP} of coffee]]]]], and ...
- a. Maddy ordered [_{DP} that [_{NP} [_{N'} nice [_{N'} [_N glass] [_{PP} of Cherry Coke]]]]]
 - b. *Maddy ordered [_{DP} that [_{NP} [_{N'} nice [_{N'} [_N one] [_{PP} of Cherry Coke]]]]]
 - c. Maddy ordered [_{DP} that [_{NP} [_{N'} nice [_{N'} one]]]]]
 - d. Maddy ordered [_{DP} that [_{NP} [_{N'} one]]]
 - e. Maddy ordered one (too)

Does your generalization need to change to accommodate the DP hypothesis? If so, what is the new generalization?

D. (10 points) Now, consider the following contrast. Given your answer to question (C), is this surprising? How might you adjust your analysis to accommodate this data?

- (6) James ordered [_{DP} the [_{NP} [_{N'} black [_{N'} [_N cup] [_{PP} of coffee]]]]],
- a. *... and Maddy ordered the one
 - b. ... and Maddy ordered that one

E. (10 points) Finally, consider the following contrast. Does your analysis in (D) account for these facts? If not, how would you adjust it? Assume that *e* replaces an NP here.

- (7) James ordered [_{DP} Norma's [_{NP} [_{N'} black [_{N'} [_N cup] [_{PP} of coffee]]]]],

- a. *... and Maddy ordered Shelly's one
- b. ... and Maddy ordered Shelly's *e*

3 Raising vs. Control

The following two sentences appear to have similar S-Structures. For the moment, we will mark the subject of the embedded non-finite clause with *e*:

- (8) a. [CP [TP Leo_i [VP seemed [TP *e*_i to be sleeping]]]]
 b. [CP [TP Leo_i [VP wanted [TP *e*_i to be sleeping]]]]

In (8-a), *Leo* must have moved from the embedded clause, whereas in (8-b), *Leo* must have base generated in the higher clause. For this reason, *e* in (8-a) is a trace, whereas in (8-b), *e* is PRO. PRO is a special silent pronoun that must be c-commanded and bound by a DP in the next clause up. Verbs like *seem* are called **raising verbs**, and verbs like *want* are called **control verbs**, because they take CP complements in which PRO must be “controlled” by a higher DP.

F. (10 points) Defend why *Leo* must have moved to the matrix Spec,TP in (8-a), but cannot have moved to the matrix Spec,TP in (8-b). **Hint:** Which theta roles does *Leo* take in each of these sentences?

G. (10 points) Raising verbs can use expletive subjects if their complement clause is finite, but this is ungrammatical with control verbs. Explain why this is the case. Your answer must make reference to the D-Structure of these sentences, and to the Theta Criterion.

- (9) a. It seemed that Leo was sleeping
 b. *It wanted that Leo was sleeping³

H. (10 points) Similarly, raising verbs are “immune” to raising – that is, the meaning is preserved if you passivize a subject DP out of a raising verb:

- (10) a. The agent seemed to eat the donut
 b. The donut seemed to be eaten by the agent

However, we find that the meaning of a passivized control clause has a different thematic structure than its active counterpart:

- (11) a. The agent wanted to eat the donut
 b. The donut wanted to be eaten by the agent

Explain why this is the case. **Hint:** Recall that at D-Structure, passives have an empty Spec,TP slot that must be filled in order to satisfy the EPP. Furthermore, consider the difference in theta roles of the verbs *want* and *seem*.

I. (10 points) Ask me any question you have about the readings or materials in class.

³On the interpretation “it was wanted that Leo was sleeping”