

75/80

Midterm exam

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LING 120B: Syntax I

Note: You may use the textbook (Radford 2004) and your class notes on this midterm exam. This test is not to be stored in a test bank.

1

10 points

Please answer the following comprehension questions.

✓ (a) What is the grammatical category of *table* in the following sentence and how do we know?

(1) To table the discussion seemed like a good idea.

verb
substitution → [_v 'pause'] → UN- → [_v 'unpause']
"to unpause the discussion seemed like..."

- (b) Based on the following data alone, what differentiates English and German, other than the identity of the words? (Hint: The heads are underlined.)

(2) a. ... [that [Fritz [should [have [eaten schnitzel]]]]]]

b. ... [dass [Fritz [[[Schnitzel gegessen] haben] soll]]]]]
that Fritz schnitzel eaten have should
'that Fritz should have eaten schnitzel'

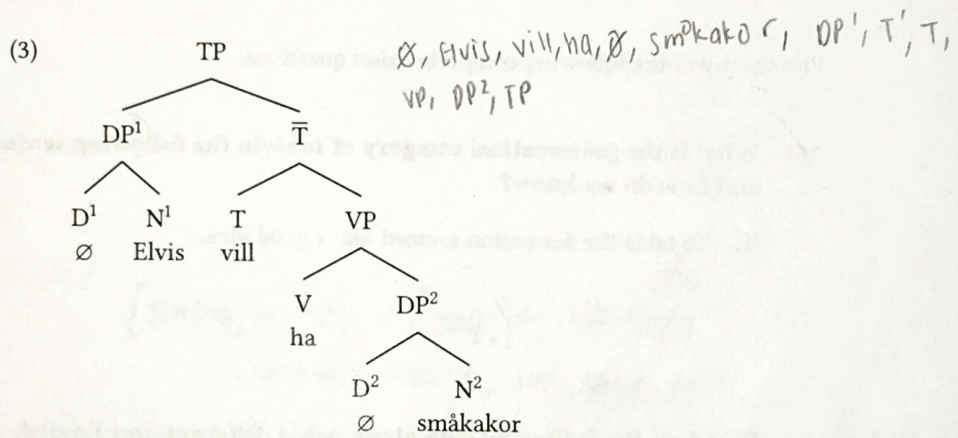
German is head-final for verbs, auxiliaries, and T-words.
and English?

-

- 2 (c) What is the distributional difference between PRO and *pro*? (Hint: Pro-drop languages also have PRO, so the difference is not between pro-drop and non-pro-drop languages.) Your answer does not need to be longer than one sentence.

PRO is fixed to subject of next highest clause

- (d) Please list all of the constituents in the following structure (the superscripts are only there to distinguish nodes with the same category label):



- (e) Please also list all of the c-command relations in the above structure in (3).

D¹: N¹

N¹: D¹

DP¹: T¹, T, VP, V, DP², D², N²

T¹: DP¹, D¹, N¹

T: VP, V, DP², D², N²

VP: T

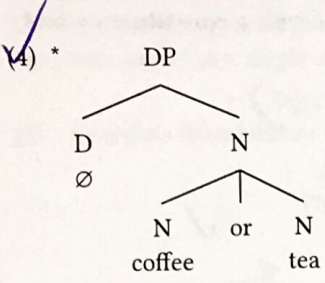
V: DP², D², N²

DP²: V

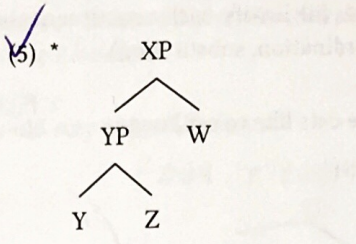
D²: N²

N²: D²

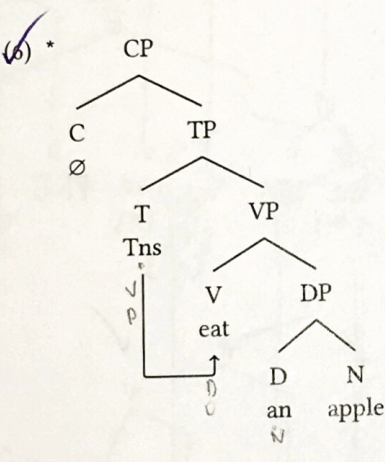
Please indicate what principle or condition is violated by each of the following structures:



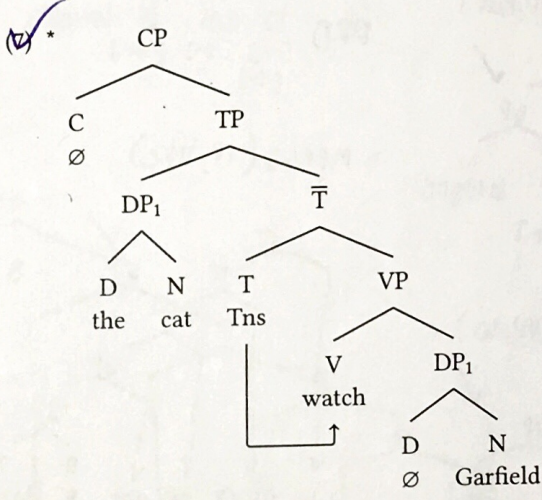
must be binary



XP should be WP or YP



Mixing DP or D to satisfy [D] of T_{ns}
EPP



violates condition C



The cats like to eat lasagna and cake
 The cats like to eat lasagna and taste cake
 The cats like to eat lasagna and to taste cake.
 The cats like to eat lasagna and hate to taste cake.
 *The cats like to eat lasagna and dogs hate to taste cake.
 The cats like to eat lasagna and the dogs hate to taste cake.
 They like to eat lasagna.
 The cats like to eat them.

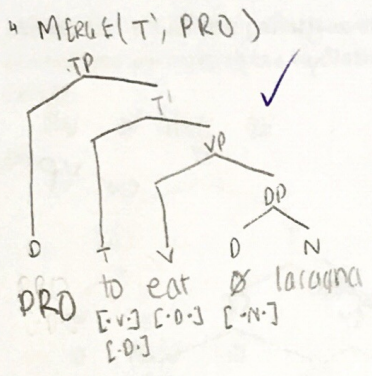
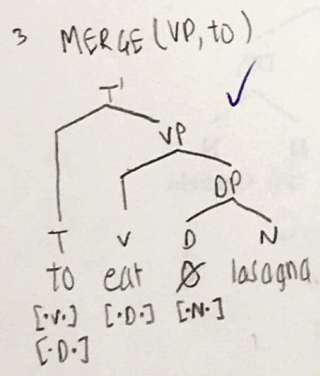
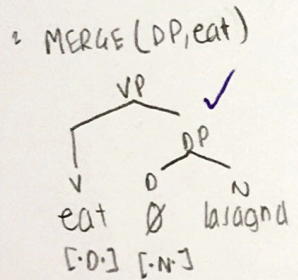
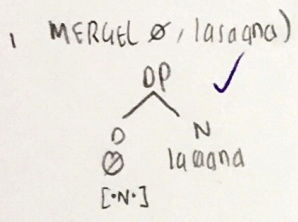
The cats and [the dogs] like to eat lasagna.

3

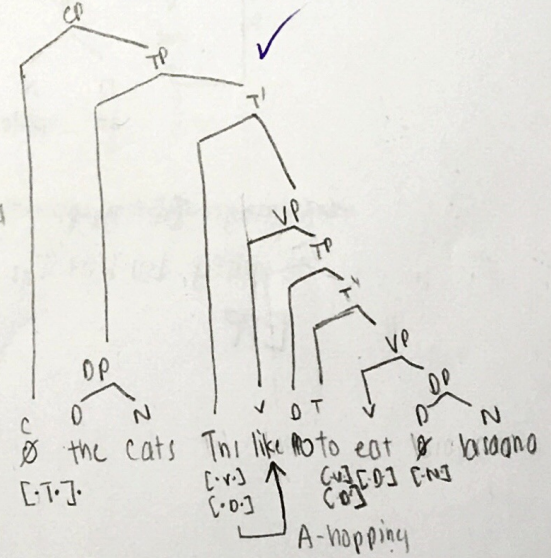
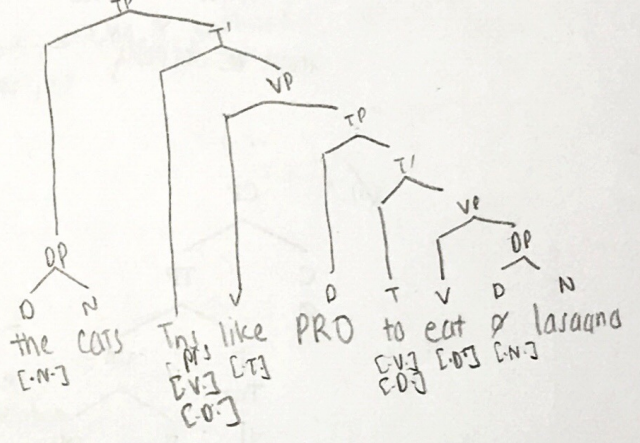
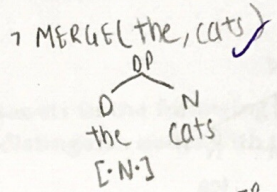
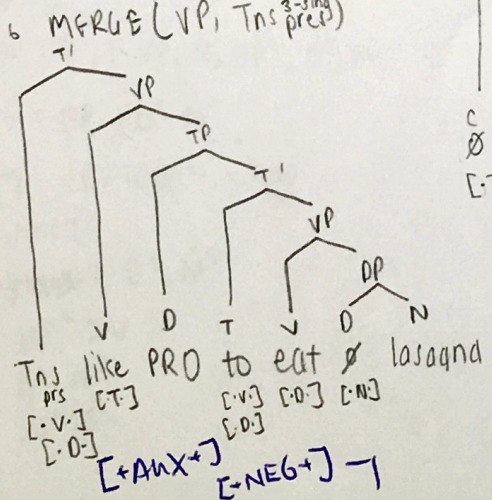
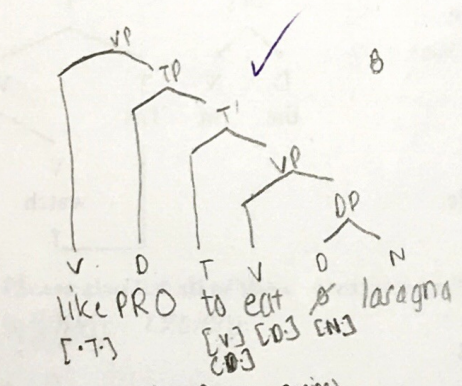
20 points

Please complete the following two tasks: (i) Show the **step-by-step derivation** for the sentence in (8), **including all of the features** (both 'bullet' and 'plus' features). (ii) Justify each constituent that you posit with a **constituency test** (e.g. coordination, substitution).

(8) The cats like to eat lasagna.



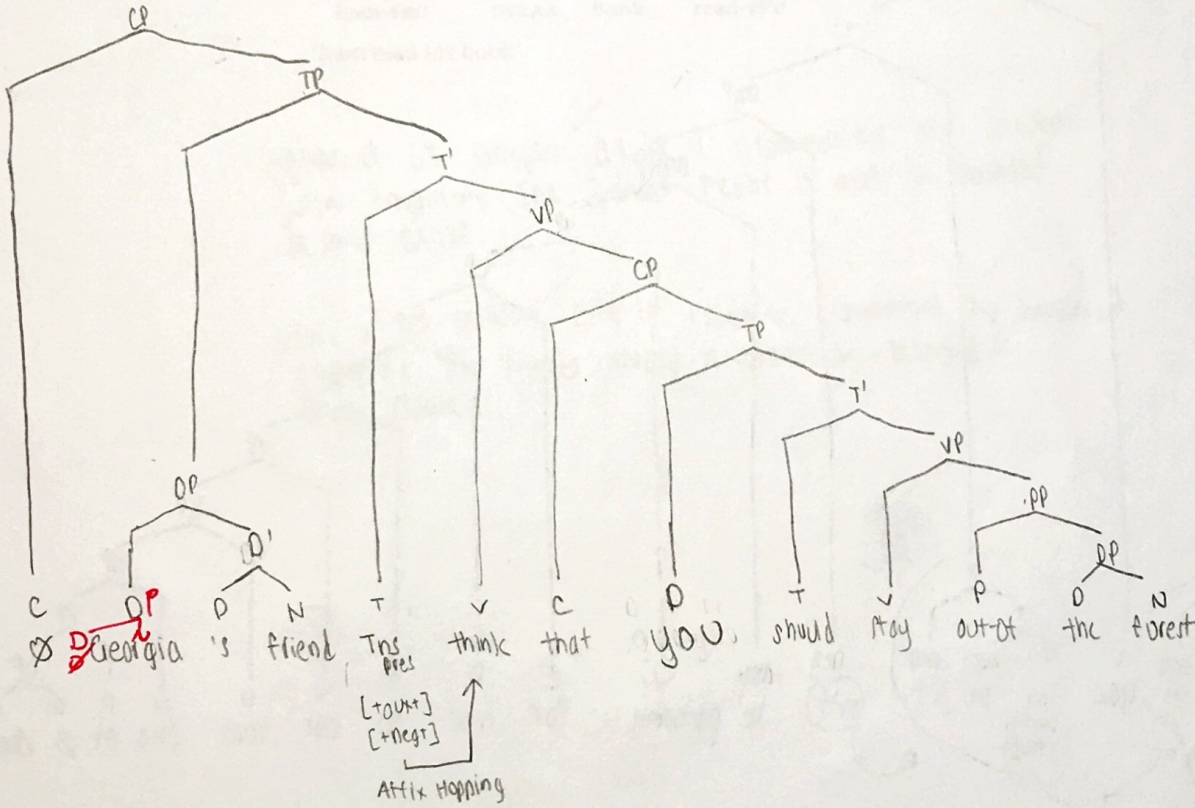
5 MERGE(TP, like)



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Please show the **final structure** for the sentence in (9); you only need to represent the **head-movement ('plus') features**. You do *not* need to represent the selection ('bullet') features, provide constituency tests, or show each derivational step. You may treat *out of* as a single undecomposable P head.

(9) Georgia's friend thinks that you should stay out-of the forest.



Hindi-Urdu has two words indicating possession that correspond to English *his/her*: *apnaa* and *uskaa*. These two words have different distributions from one another, as shown in (11). Explain how the binding conditions account for the distribution of *apnaa* and *uskaa* in Hindi-Urdu. (Note that the different forms of these words in (11) are not relevant for the problem.) □

(11) a. [raam-ne₁ [[apni_{1,2} kitaab] parh-ii]]
 Ram-ERG APNAA book read-PFV
 'Ram read his book' □

b. [raam-ne₁ [[uski_{1,2} kitaab] parh-ii]]
 Ram-ERG USKAA book read-PFV
 'Ram read his book'

apnaa is an anaphor ✓ as it is c-commanded and coindexed with *raam-ne*. The 2-index means it must be bounded in some clause.

uski is a pronoun ✓ since it cannot be c-commanded by coindexed *raam-ne*. The 2-index means it cannot be bounded in same clause.