

Linguistics 20  
Fall 2016  
Hayes/Gaines/Yoo

Your name \_\_\_\_\_  
Your TA \_\_\_\_\_  
Section time \_\_\_\_\_

## Midterm Exam

### Please read all directions with care.

There are no trick questions, and the directions are meant to help.

- You have one hour and fifty minutes.
- Please write all your answers on the exam itself.
- For scratch paper, you can use the back of the sheets.
- The rules you need are in an Appendix on the last two pages.

#### 1. Parsing

Parse this sentence.

Bill's brother's friend wrote a book in December.

#### 2. Word formation

Write a rule of word formation for English that can derive the italicized items. Use the normal format we have been using for word formation rules.

a merry *chase*

a fifty-foot *drop*

The canoeists found that between Racquette Lake and Forked Lake was not a difficult *carry*.<sup>1</sup>

He reached the water fountain and took a good long *drink*.

### 3. Subcategorization

Assume the data below and write the subcategorization of *transform* (as a verb). You may need to use more than one frame.

- \*Fred transformed.
- Fred transformed the field.
- Fred transformed the apple into a pear.
- Fred transformed into a dwarf.

### 4. Normative grammar

Following Chapter 3 of the text, define the following three terms. Give the definitions according to what linguists say, not the general public.

a. idiolect

b. dialect

c. language

### 5. Phrase structure and case marking in a fictional language

i. Parse each sentence. Please note that in this language even proper names take articles, just as in some real languages like Arabic or Italian.

b. kanta kantata un zoli-num gado-mus het  
sang song a pretty-ACC cat-NOM the  
'The cat sang a pretty song'

c. dad chingu-ni un libri het-num gado-mus het  
gave friend-DAT a book the-ACC cat-NOM the  
'The cat gave the book to a friend'

d. shishi roy-ni het auto un-num motosi un per Yuser-mus nei  
traded king-DAT the car-~~to~~ a <sup>Acc</sup> motorcycle a for Joseph-NOM the  
'Joseph traded a car to the king for a motorcycle'

e. sh  
traded king-DAT the car a-ACC motorcycle a for garden the in Tuesday a on ~~Arthur-NOM the~~  
'Arthur traded a car to the king for a motorcycle in the garden on a Tuesday'

f. hecian gado-mus het korpu tre  
yawned cat-NOM the fat very  
'The very fat cat yawned'

g. hecian gado-mus het korpu gelpa grosa  
'yawned cat-NOM the fat yellow big  
'The big fat yellow cat yawned'

h. wixt fatta-mus het hecian gado-mus het ki  
matters fact-NOM the yawned cat-NOM the that  
'The fact that the cat yawned matters'

i. hareshi Artur het-num kelèm-mus het hecian gadò-mus het ki malfortu maiglauba  
bothers Arthur the-ACC claim-NOM the yawned cat-NOM the that unfortunate unbelievable  
'The unfortunate unbelievable claim that the cat yawned bothers Arthur'

j. gefelt Yusef het-num dembun-mus het haeshi Artur het-num kelem-mus het hecian gado-mus net k1 k1  
 pleases Joseph the-ACC rumor-NOM the bothers Arthur the-ACC claim-NOM the yawned cat-NOM the that that  
 'The claim that the rumor that the cat yawned bothers Arthur pleases Joseph'  
 rumor claim claim rumor

ii. Write a simple set of phrase structure rules that can generate all the sentences. Do not assume Kleene star unless you see at least three identical nodes in a row. If you find it helps, you can make notes next to the trees you drew above; we will not grade these notes.

iii. Identify a loop in the phrase structure rules that permits them to generate sentences of infinite length. Circle the nodes that create the loop.

iv. Nominative case is attached to:

- \_\_\_ the head of the subject of a clause
- \_\_\_ the rightmost word of the subject of a clause

Specify an NP that proves this, in the following format:

Sentence: (identifying letter): \_\_\_ NP:

v. Accusative case is attached to:

- \_\_\_ the head of the object (second object, if there are two) of the verb
- \_\_\_ the rightmost word of the object (second object, if there are two) of the verb

Specify an NP that proves this, in the following format:

Sentence: (identifying letter): \_\_\_ NP:

vi. Dative case is attached to:

- \_\_\_ the head of the first object of the verb when there are two
- \_\_\_ the rightmost word of the first object of the verb when there are two

Specify an NP that proves this, in the following format:

Sentence: (identifying letter): \_\_\_ NP:

## 6. Plural formation in a fictional language

Here are singular-plural pairs in a fictional language. Assume a morphosyntactic feature [Number] with values Singular, Plural. Write a formal rule, using the method taught in class, that generates the plural forms.

lap	'soup'	lapap	'kinds of soup'
zum	'turtle'	zumum	'turtles'
teres	'tire'	tereseres	'tires'
savik	'policeman'	savikavik	'policemen'
tolor	'clerk'	tolorolor	'clerks'
tavektis	'bird'	tavektisavektis	'birds'
katabum	'book'	katabumatabum	'books'

## 7. Inflectional morphology

Here is a verb paradigm in an inflectional language.

kanto	'I sing'	kantolar	'we sing'
kanto	'you sing'	kantolarim	'you-plural sing'
kanto	'he/she sings'	kantolar	'they sing'

Assume the features [Number: sing, plur] and [Person: 1, 2, 3] and write the inflectional rules needed to derive these forms, following the format used in this course. Write your rules in the correct order.

## 8. Islands I

Construct a sentence that tests whether Wh-Movement obeys the Coordinate Structure Constraint. Show deep structure with boxes and arrows indicating movements; circle the island. Also show the surface structure. You do not have to say whether or not your sentence is grammatical.



## 9. Islands II

As mentioned in the text, there are many islands. The following sentences illustrate an additional island in English.

- a. Mary has heard a story about John.
  - b. Who had Mary heard a story about? F
  - c. The story about John has annoyed Mary.
  - d. \*Who has the story about annoyed Mary?
  - e. Dalí drew pictures of droopy watches.
  - f. What did Dalí draw pictures of? A
  - g. Pictures of droopy watches will offend the public.
  - h. \*What will pictures of offend the public? A
  - i. Bill has consumed an entire box of chocolates.
  - j. An entire box of chocolates will spoil your appetite.
  - k. What has Bill consumed an entire box of?
  - l. \*What will an entire box of spoil your appetite? A
- i. Provide a clear description of this island; that is, what is the syntactic structure that Wh-Movement cannot extract from in the above sentences?

- ii. Make up a new sentence that according to your analysis should be bad because of the new island. No diagram is required, but show the gap with a trace.

### Appendix: Rules

English phrase structure rules:

S → NP (Aux) VP

NP →  $\left( \begin{array}{c} \{ \text{Art} \} \\ \{ \text{NP} \} \end{array} \right) (\text{AP})^* \text{N} (\text{PP})^* (\text{CP})$

NP → Pronoun

AP → (Adv) A

VP → V (NP) (NP) (PP)\* (CP)

VP → V AP (PP)\*

PP → P NP

CP → (Comp) S

NP → NP (Conj NP)\*

VP → VP (Conj VP)\*

PP → PP (Conj PP)\*

S → S (Conj S)\*

CP → CP (Conj CP)\*

V → V (Conj V)\*

**Wh- Movement:** Move wh- into an unfilled Comp, leaving a trace.

### Coordinate Structure Constraint

Mark as ungrammatical any sentence in which a constituent has been extracted from inside a coordinate structure.