

24.902 Homework #7
(due: Wednesday, October 29)

A set of smallish, unconnected problems concerning control vs. ECM and Raising. Warning: the last question asks you to draw a big tree.

Part 1: Subject control vs. Raising

Which of the following verbs and adjectives, when they occur in the context *V* (or *Adj*) to *VP* (e.g. *Mary threatened to leave*), are Raising verbs, and which are Subject Control verbs? Give at least two example sentences per verb (with some variety, please!) to justify your decision, indicating relevant occurrences of PRO and/or using arrows to indicate movement for case reasons.¹

a. *hope* b. *threaten* c. *appear* d. *sure* e. *eager*

Part 2: Object control vs. ECM

Which of the following verbs, when they occur in the context *V NP to VP* (e.g. *Mary ordered Bill to leave*), are ECM verbs, and which are Object Control verbs? Give at least two example sentences per verb etc. etc.

a. *convince* b. *judge* c. *convince* d. *force* e. *declare*

Part 3: Passive and synonymy

Though (1a) and (1b) are roughly synonymous, (2a) and (2b) are not. Explain these facts.

- (1) a. Mary believes Bill to have insulted Tom.
 b. Mary believes Tom to have been insulted by Bill.
- (2) a. Mary ordered Bill to insult Tom.
 b. Mary ordered Tom to be insulted by Bill.

¹ Please assume that ECM and Raising infinitivals are IPs and assume that control infinitivals are CPs (generally with a null C). This will be discussed in class.

Part 4: Reflexive anaphors

As you may remember from 24.900, a reflexive anaphor² (*himself, herself, etc.*) must have a (c-commanding) antecedent within its own clause.³ For this reason, making the usual assumption that Mary is female and John is male, the examples in (3) contrast:

- (3) a. John believes Mary to have insulted herself.
 b. *John believes Mary to have insulted himself.

Question 1: Explain in this light the following examples, without giving up on the idea that a reflexive requires a c-commanding linguistic antecedent in its own clause):

- (4) a. John persuaded Mary to insult herself.
 b. *John persuaded Mary to insult himself.

Question 2: With *promise*, the judgments magically seem to reverse. Why?

- (5) a. John promised Mary to insult himself.
 b. *John promised Mary to insult herself.

Extra credit: Explain these, while you're at it:

- (6) a. *John regarded Mary as angry at himself.
 b. John regarded Mary as angry at herself.
- (7) a. John struck Mary as angry at himself.
 b. *John struck Mary as angry at herself.

² You might have learned the term "reflexive pronoun" or just "anaphor" for such forms.

³ This is not quite right, given the acceptability of *John believes himself to have read the book*. We will discuss this in detail when we do Binding Theory shortly. Ignore such examples for now.

Part 5: Icelandic again!

The Icelandic data given in (8)-(12) below provide an argument for the analysis of control vs. raising given in class. Give the argument. Don't forget what you learned in the last Icelandic problem.

- (8) a. Pétur hafði borðað kæstan hákarl
Peter had eaten rotten shark
- b. Pétur hafði reynt að borða kæstan hákarl
Peter had tried to eat rotten shark
- c. Pétur hafði virst að borða kæstan hákarl
Peter had seemed to eat rotten shark

(9) Some quirky case-marked subjects

- a. Hana vantar peninga.
her-ACC lacks money
'She lacks money.'
 - b. Henni batanaði veikin.
her-DAT recovered-from disease-the.
'She recovered from the disease.'
 - c. Honum var hjálpað
him-DAT was helped
'He was helped'
- (10) a. Hún vonast til⁴ að vanta ekki peninga.
She-NOM hopes for to lack not money
 - b. Hana⁵ virðist vanta peninga.
her-ACC seems to-lack money
- (11) a. Hún vonast til að batnað veikin.
She-NOM hope for to recover-from disease-the

⁴ A preposition, not a complementizer (trust me). In English, prepositions cannot take a CP as a complement, but in Icelandic, they can.

⁵ Quirky accusative.

- b. Henni virðist hafa batnað veikin.
her-DAT seems to-have recovered-from disease-the

- (12) a. Strákarnir vonast til að verða hjálpaðir.
boys-the-NOM hope for to be helped
- b. Strákunum virðist hafa verið hjálpað
boys-the-DAT seems to-have been helped-dflt

Part 6:

Draw a tree for the following sentence, making sure you include all instances of PRO (coindexed with its controller) and arrows to show all instances of movement.⁶

- (13) The jurors seem to have tried to consider Mary to have ordered the student to be arrested.

⁶ The *be* of passive sentences in English is just another auxiliary verb. It follows the *be* of progressive aspect that takes *-ing* in the template. For example: *Bill must have been being arrested by the police (when we phoned)*. The underlined *be* is the auxiliary used in passive.