

24.902  
Fall 2015  
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[70 points total]

I. [3] Are expletives in English (*it, there*) subject to the Case filter? Explain how we can check this. Give examples.

II. [4] Look at the pair of sentences below, identify which is an A-Movement and which is an A'-Movement and then explain one difference between them that is evident in the verbs in **BOLD**:

1. The children **are** certain to be successful in the future.
2. Which children **does** John like?

III. [6] In the following sentences, give the sources of the i) cases and ii) theta roles of the underlined words.

1. It seems that Katie is sick.
2. Katie seems to be sick.

IV. [6] You've been frozen in an iceberg for 50 years, and have just thawed out to find that standard American English has evolved from when you last knew it. Most words and all grammatical structures are exactly the same as in the dialect with which you are familiar, but there are a few new words which you do not recognize. Consider this sentence:

1. the boy is certain *eah* is likely to win the race.

You have been told that *eah* is nominal in nature. You have decided to make an educated assumption that *eah* is the subject of *is likely*. Given this assumption, can you conclude from (1) whether *eah* is or is not an expletive?

V. [6] Why are the following sentences ungrammatical?

1. \*Frank is certain will buy the house.
2. \*There is certain to win the race

VI. [5] Give a short explanation of how the word "it" can be thought of differently in the situations below.

1. Mary has no fever. It is certain that she is fine.
2. The robot doctor examined Mary. It is certain that she is fine.

VII. [10] What do the following sentences reveal about the relationship between A movement and binding theory?

1. He<sub>i</sub> seems to himself<sub>i</sub> to be ugly
2. \*He<sub>i</sub> seems to him<sub>j</sub> to be ugly
3. It seems to him<sub>j</sub> that he<sub>i</sub> is ugly

VIII. [12] The following three sentences can be said to exhibit the same phenomenon. Which phenomenon is this, and why/how do they exhibit it?

1. \*Have he can witnessed the accident?

2. \*Ivan is certain it is likely to win the race
3. When did he ask how she travelled to St. Petersburg?

IX. [2] Give a sentence that shows that A-movement does not run into Weak Cross Over problems.

X. [16] For each of the cells in the table, justify the table entry.

	A-MOVEMENT	A'-MOVEMENT
Head of chain in position where Case is assigned	yes	no
Head of chain in position where theta-role is assigned	no	no
Foot of chain in position where Case is assigned	no	sometimes
Foot of chain in position where theta-role is assigned	sometimes	sometimes

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