

HW # 2 DUE: OCTOBER 15, 2007

READ CH. 8 AND 10!!!

I. C-command [5 pts]

1. Please refer to p.125 of Carnie. List all the notes that are *asymmetrically* c-commanded by NP1 (the baker).[2pts]

2. List ALL of the *symmetric* c-command relations that you see in this tree (refer to the tree on p.125) [2pts]

3. What nodes (if any) does the node 'N1'(baker) *asymmetrically* c-command? [1pt]

II. X-bar theory [2pts]

Please provide a tree structure for the sentence in (1) below. You must use the X-bar notation and show all the needed bar-levels. You should / may refer to your notes and /or the book. Please use the back of the page or a separate paper for the tree:

(1) *John often reads the big book of poems with a red cover*

IV. Theta roles and Case [8pts]

In class we discussed that the following sentence in (1) is ungrammatical with the intended meaning "The donut was eaten"

(1) **The donut(i) ate t(i)*

(a) what is/are the reason(s) for the ungrammaticality of this sentence?[1pts]

(b) Why is (2) possible, unlike (1)? [1pts]

(2) *The donut(i) was eaten t(i)*

(c) Does your hypothesis explain why (3a,b) are both impossible? How so? [2pts]

(3)a. **The donut was eaten John*

b. **John was eaten the donut*

(d) Why is the sentence in (4) impossible? Why can't accusative case be assigned by the passivized verb? [2pts]

(4) **Him was killed*

(e) Does your answer for the question in (d) also account for why (5) is ungrammatical? Explain, please. [2pts]

(5) **Him existed*

V. Intransitives [5pts]

a) Why is it possible to say (6) but not (7)? Explain on a separate sheet or on a back. [2pts]

(6) John lived a good life vs. (7) **John existed a happy existence*

b) Draw two VP structures for (8) and (9) respectively. Indicate ALL the theta-assignments via arrows and state what theta roles are assigned. Then indicate for each theta-role whether it is external or internal. Do your structures for (8) and (9) explain why (6) is grammatical while (7) is ungrammatical? State your answer in one or two sentences. [3pts]

(8) John lived vs. (9) John existed