

A Class of Binding Puzzles  
(and their solutions?)

Howard Lasnik  
University of Connecticut  
April 29, 1982

I. The S structure binding requirement

A.

1. Which men [do you think [ $e_1$  hit each other $_1$ ]]
2. I wonder [which woman [e introduced which men $_1$  to each other $_1$ ]]
3. An anaphor must be A bound at S structure. This requirement is purely 'syntactic' apparently. The binder need not be of the correct logical type at this level.
4. None of the men $_1$  like each other $_1$ .

B.

5. \*The man [who [I met him without speaking to e]]
6. To satisfy Binding, e must be  $\bar{A}$  bound at S structure.
- 7a. The man [[to whom] $_1$  [I spoke  $e_1$ ]]
- 7b. The man [[whose father] $_1$  [I met  $e_1$ ]]
8. e is  $\bar{A}$  bound, but is not obviously a variable, nor is its binder an operator. This requirement, like that in (3), is purely syntactic.
9. \*The man [who [I spoke e]]
10. A binder and bindee must be of the same syntactic category.
11. \*The book [from which [I copied without buying e]]
12. \*How angry can you become e without seeming e.

II. Properties of Condition C

13. \*John likes { John  
the bastard }
14. \*John thinks { John  
the bastard } should be elected
15. \*The man who loves her told her that Susan is beautiful

[The following Vietnamese examples were provided by U.Conn. graduate student Dang Lan-Anh.]

16. \*John <sup>1</sup>thường John  
John like(s) John

17. \*John thường cái thằng chó đẻ  
John like(s) the son of a bitch
18. John tin [John sẽ thắng]  
John believe(s) [John will win]
19. John tin [thằng chó đẻ sẽ thắng]  
John believe(s) [boy dog born will win]  
John believes the son of a bitch will win
20. Condition C' : A name must be A free in its governing category. [This then represents a parametric choice.]  
[The following Thai examples were provided by U.Conn. graduate student Katyane Svastikula.]
21. coon choop coon  
John like John
22. coon khít {  $\emptyset$  } coon chālāat  
                  { wáa }  
John think that John smart
23. \*coon choop <sup>á</sup>áybáa  
John like the nut
24. coon khít {  $\emptyset$  } <sup>á</sup>áybáa chālāat  
                  { wáa }  
John think that the nut smart
25. Thai seems to lack both Condition C and Condition C', yet an anaphoric epithet still must be free in its governing category.  
Hypothesis: anaphoric epithets (universally) fall under both the condition on names and the condition on pronouns.
26. John I hate { him  
                  the bastard } [Example due to Bruce Hayes]  
                  \*John

## III. Pronouns

27. \*No' thường John  
He like(s) John
28. \*No' tin [John sẽ thắng]  
He believe(s) [John will win]
29. \*kháw ch<sup>á</sup>oop coon  
he like John
30. \*kháw khít coon chālāat  
he think John smart