

Linguistics 611 Spring 2009  
HW #2 15 points  
Due Tuesday 3/3

1. Chomsky (1991, and especially 1993) argues that we should rethink the GB theory of Case in several ways, including the following:
  - a. The Case relation is a spec- $X^0$  relation rather than a government relation
  - b. Case is checked not assigned

Discuss conceptual and empirical motivations for these proposed revisions.  
[5 points]

2. Consider the following contrast (of a sort first noted by Postal (1974)):
  - a. ?John believed Bill very fervently to be innocent
  - b. \*John believed Bill very fervently was innocent

Discuss the contrast and its possible implications for the LGB and Chapter 3 approaches to Case. (Some of the phenomena discussed in Lasnik and Saito (1991) might be relevant.)  
[4 points]

3. Chomsky (1993) argues that S-structure should be eliminated from the theory of grammar as a significant level of representation. Discuss the conceptual arguments for doing so and discuss Chomsky's approach to the seemingly overwhelming empirical evidence **for** S-structure.  
[6 points]