

Linguistics 611 Spring 2014
HW #1 17 points
Due Thursday 2/20

[Chomsky 1991 = Ch. 2; Chomsky 1993 = Ch. 3]

- (1) a. For Chomsky 1991, what, if anything, prevents overt raising of main verbs to Infl in English?
b. For Chomsky 1991, what, if anything, prevents overt ‘re-raising’ of main verbs to Infl in English?
[4 points]
- (2) On the Chomsky 1991 and 1993 accounts, explain how overt raising of ‘auxiliary’ verbs is allowed.
[4 points]
- (3) Discuss the major conceptual and technical differences between the Chomsky 1991 and 1993 treatments of the English vs. French verbal system. Comment on the role played by ‘economy’ in each account.
[5 points]
- (4) It is very well established that the Case Filter (either in its Case assignment version or its Case checking version) does not constrain D-Structure. In “On Binding” and LGB, it was therefore concluded that it constrains S-Structure. Under Minimalist ideals, that is not a possibility, leaving PF or LF. Interestingly, the assignment version of Case Theory seems conceptually compatible with PF (Case is necessary for morphological realization). And the checking version seems compatible with LF (Case is necessary in order for θ -roles to be assigned - ‘Visibility’). Discuss how the following examples might bear on these possibilities:
 - a. ✓ We tried [PRO to win the election]
cf. *We tried [Mary to win the election]
 - b. *The woman (who) we tried [*t* to win the election] is on TV
 - b.’ *The woman (who) it seems [*t* to be the best candidate] is on TV
 - c. *It is likely [there to be a storm at 6:00][4 points]