

Linguistics 611 Spring 2014
HW #2 13 points
Due Tuesday 3/4

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

1. Using the technology developed by Chomsky (1993), explain the ambiguity of the following example. (*Himself* can be understood as either John or Bill.) Be explicit!

Which picture of himself did John say that Bill likes

[4 points]

2. The following example has long been problematic for theories of anaphora. Show how it is problematic for Chomsky (1993).

This picture of himself is the present that John likes best

[3 points]

3. (A supplement to HW1)

We looked in great detail at English vs. French with respect to the relative positioning of negation and main verbs. (The Verbal Morphology handout had extensive discussion.) Chomsky, following Emonds and Pollock, presents another apparently related asymmetry involving adverbs and main verbs. Ex. (2) on p.134 of the 1995 reprint of Chomsky (1991) is the target paradigm:

a. John often kisses Mary [*John kisses often Mary]

b. John completely lost his mind [*John lost completely his mind]

c. Jean embrasse souvent Marie [*Jean souvent embrasse Marie]

d. Jean perdit complètement la tête [*Jean complètement perdit la tête]

a. Discuss how Chomsky (1991) handles this paradigm, considering both the good and bad ex's above.

b. As you know, Chomsky (1993) presents quite a different account of verbal morphology, one not using Affix Hopping at all. Discuss how this latter account might handle the data. [I say 'might' because unlike in the 1991 paper, Chomsky doesn't actually analyze, or even present, any relevant data.]

[6 points]