# Chapter 11 homework problems

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John is kicked

CP
C̄
C TP
∅
T̄
T[NOM] VP
∅
V V̄
is VP
V̄
V DP$_i$
kicked$_j$ John
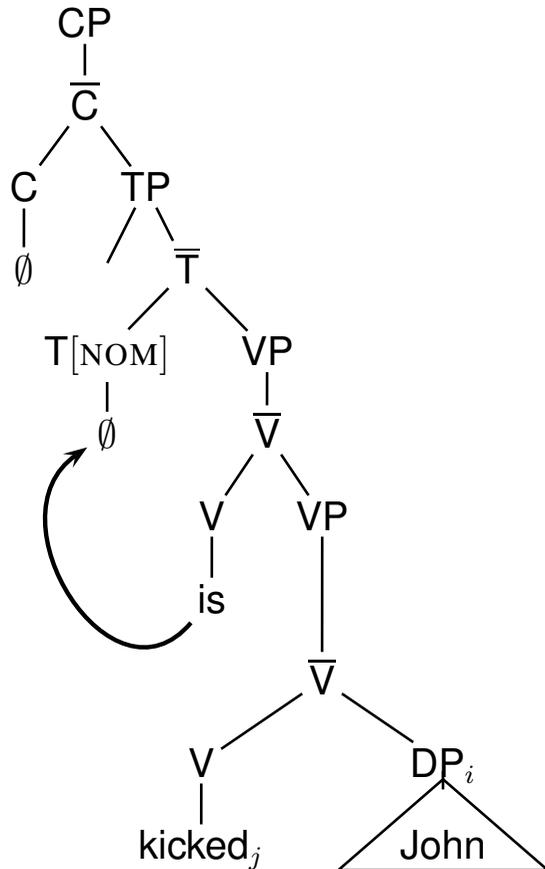
D-structure + V→T

kicked assigns theme θ-role

kick+en$_j$ = kicked

-en$_j$ takes Agent role

D-struc: $\emptyset_{-\text{pst}}$be kicked$_j$ John$_i$

kick

Agent	Theme
DP	DP
j	i

No accusative case, no agent role

John is kicked
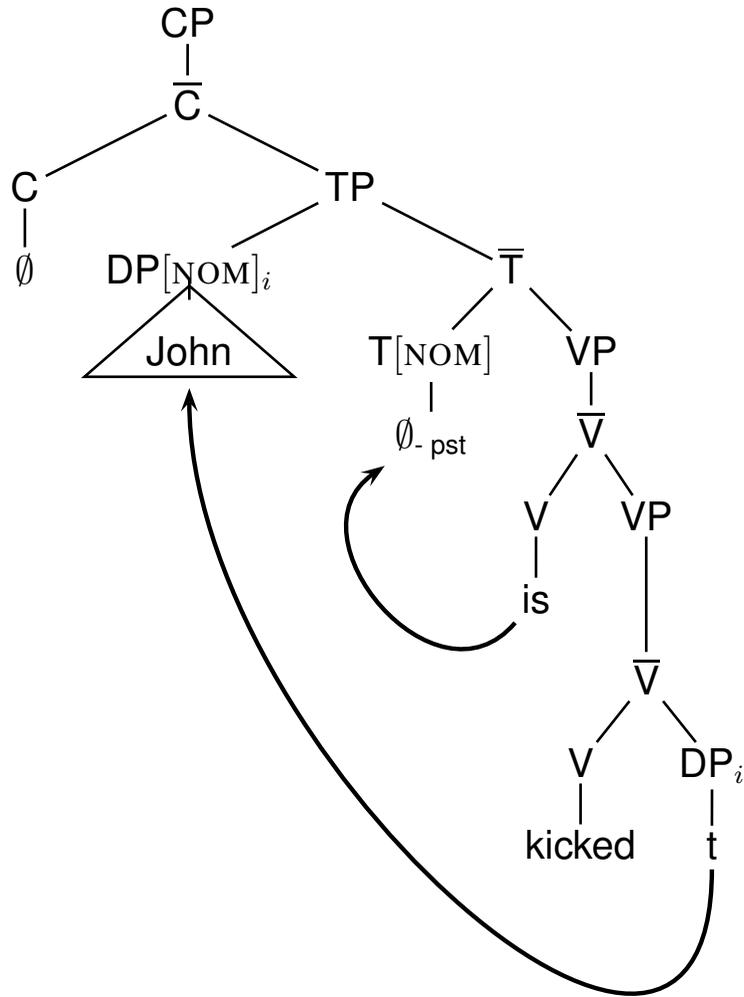
S-structure

*John* gets nominative case checked, EPP satisfied

# Has the rice been eaten?
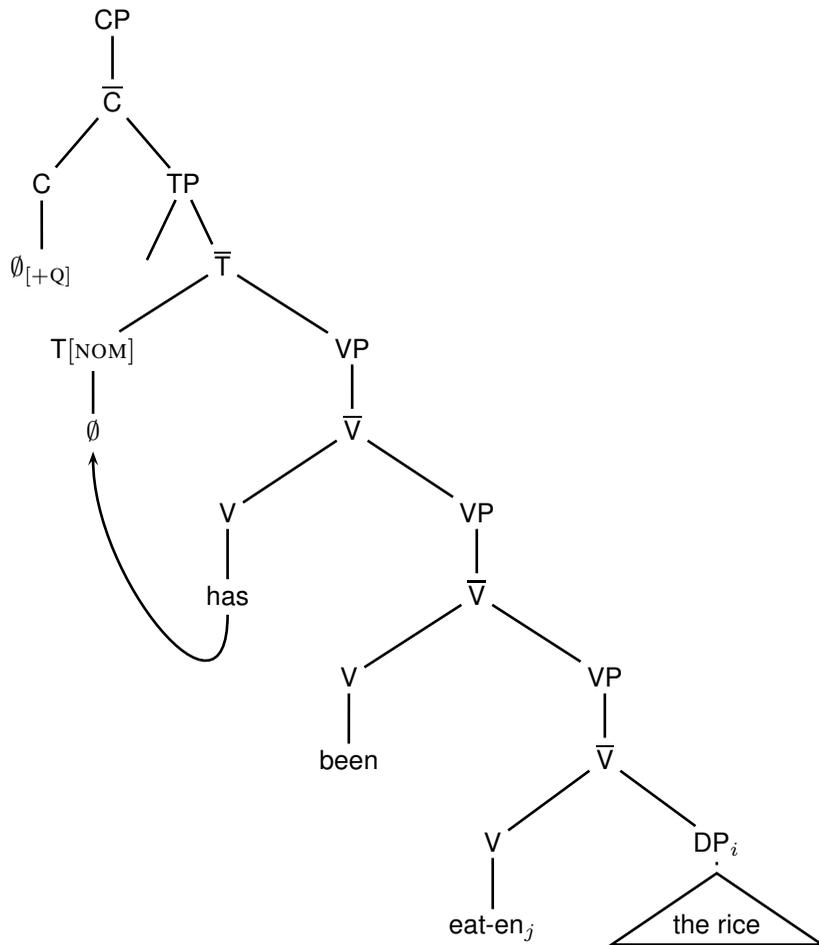
D-struc + V→T

Theme θ-role assigned

-en$_j$ takes Agent role

Has the rice been eaten?

CP
  C̄
    C — has[+Q]
    TP
      DP[NOM]ᵢ — the rice
      T̄
        T[NOM] — tᵥ
        VP
          V̄
            V — tᵥ
            VP
              V̄
                V — been
                VP
                  V̄
                    V — eat-enⱼ
                    DPᵢ — t
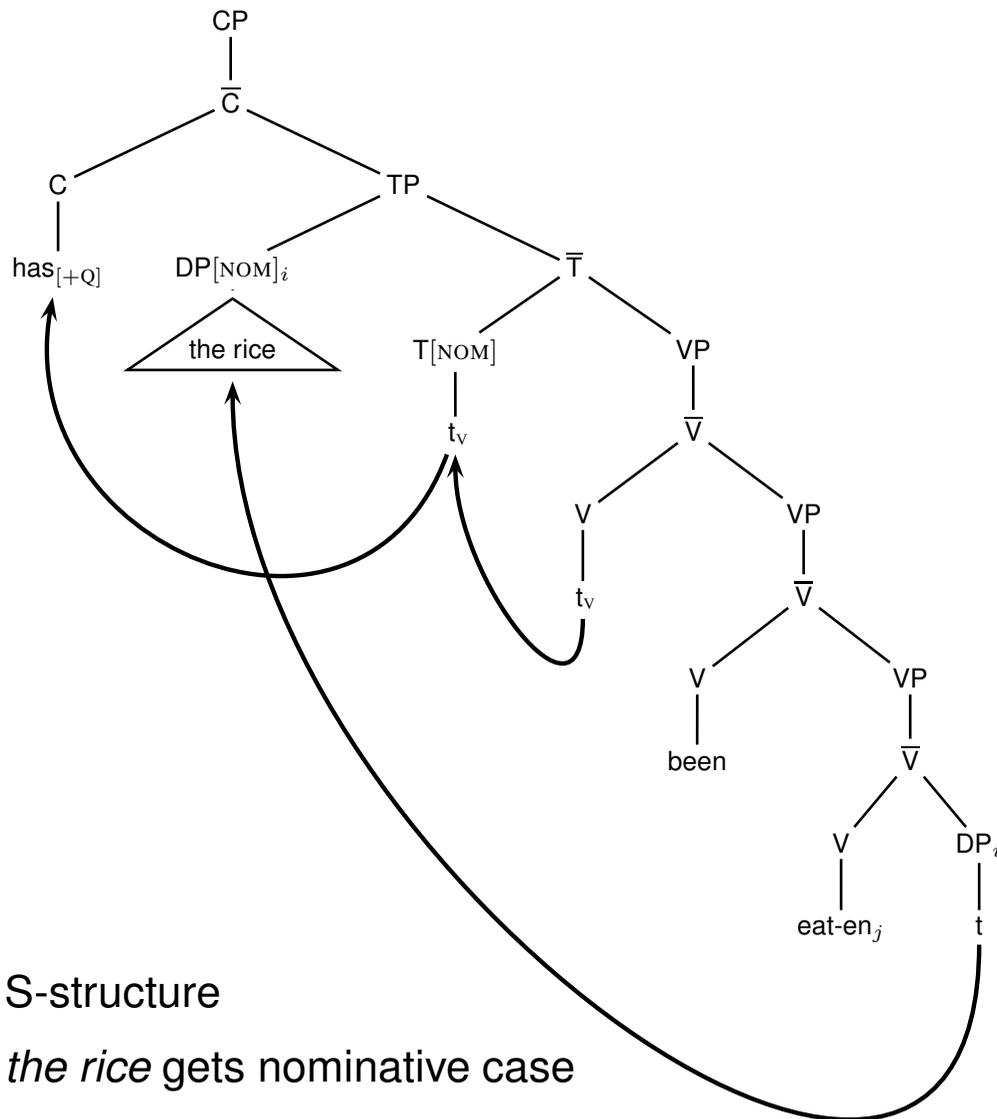
S-structure

*the rice* gets nominative case

V→T, T→C

The money was hidden in the drawer
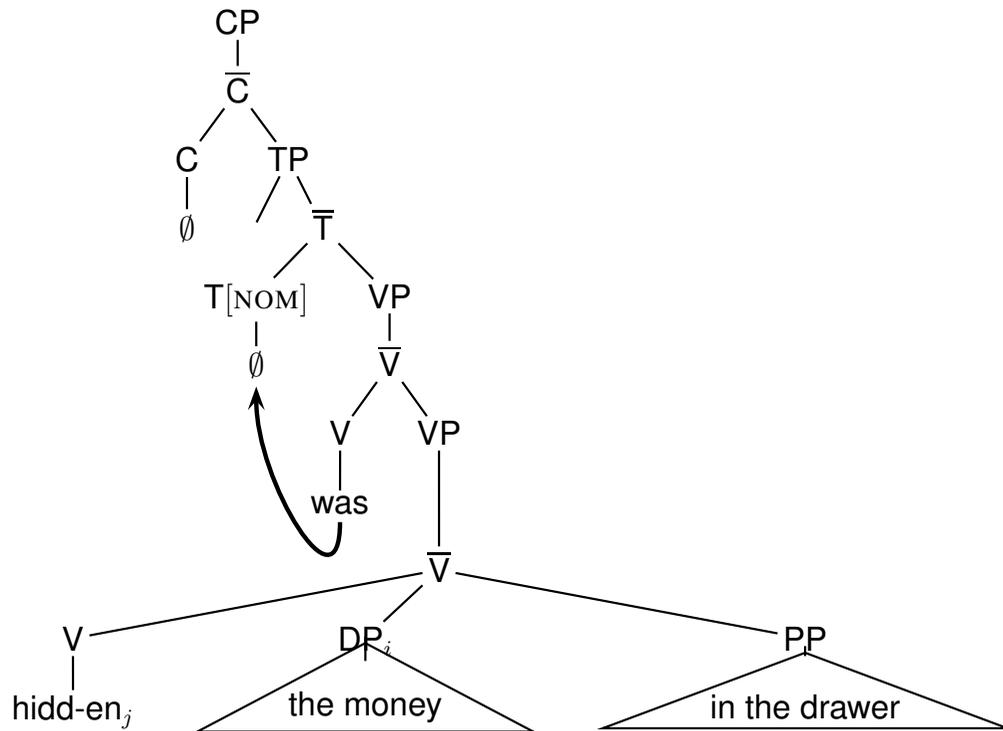
D-structure + V→T

Theme and Loc θ-roles assigned

-en$_j$ takes Agent role

No accusative case

The money was hidden in the drawer
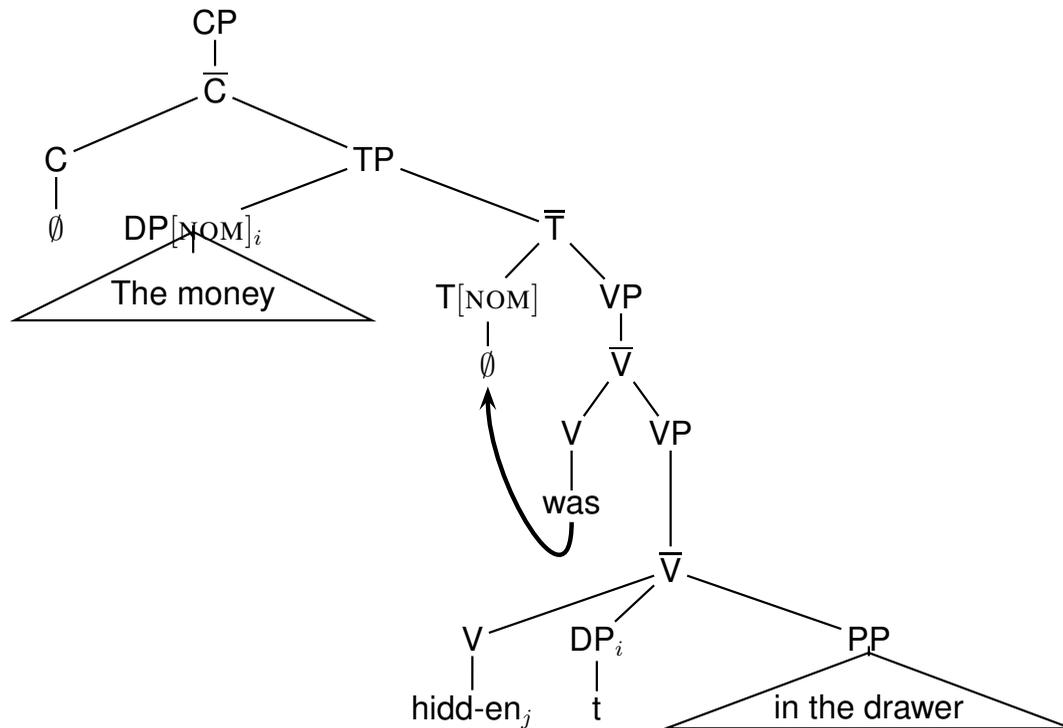
S-structure

The money gets nominative case

... to have been kissed
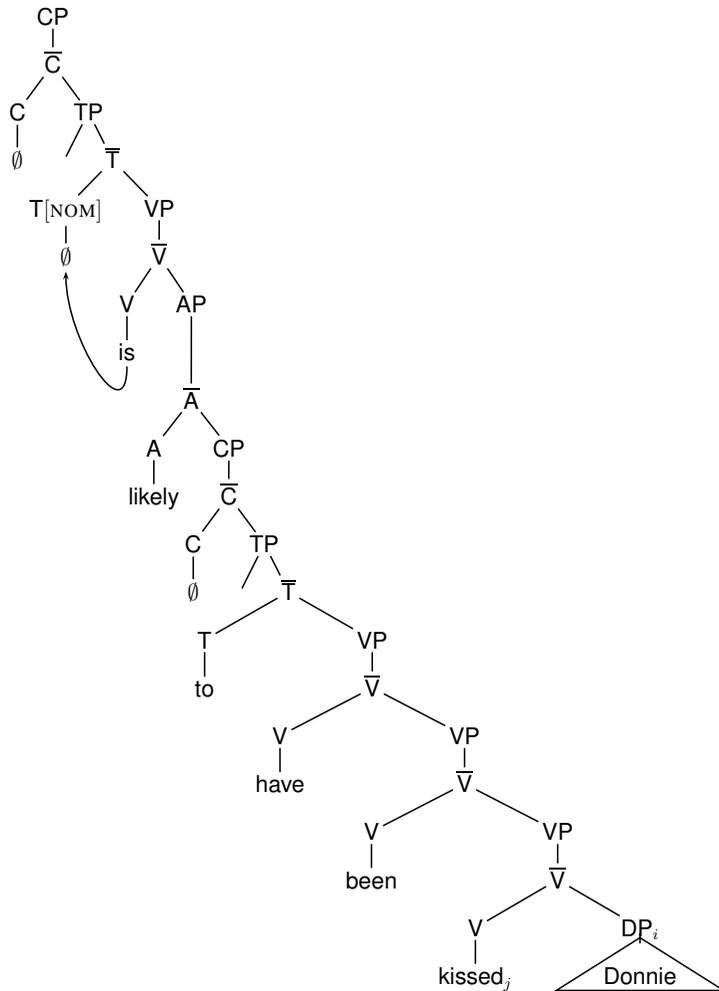
D-structure + V→T

-en$_j$ takes Agent role

No accusative case

... to have been kissed

intermediate

Donny gets no case

EPP

... to have been kissed
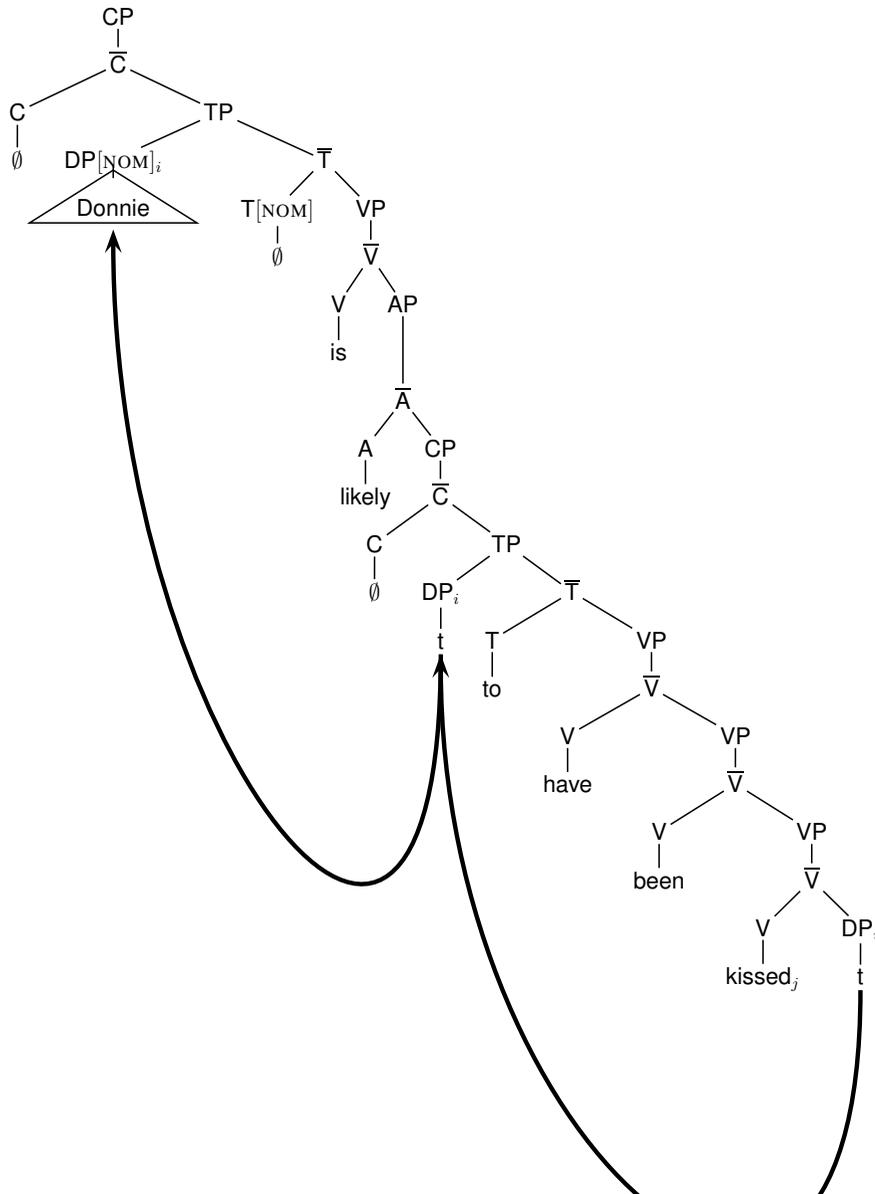
S-structure

Donny gets nominative case

EPP

It is likely ...
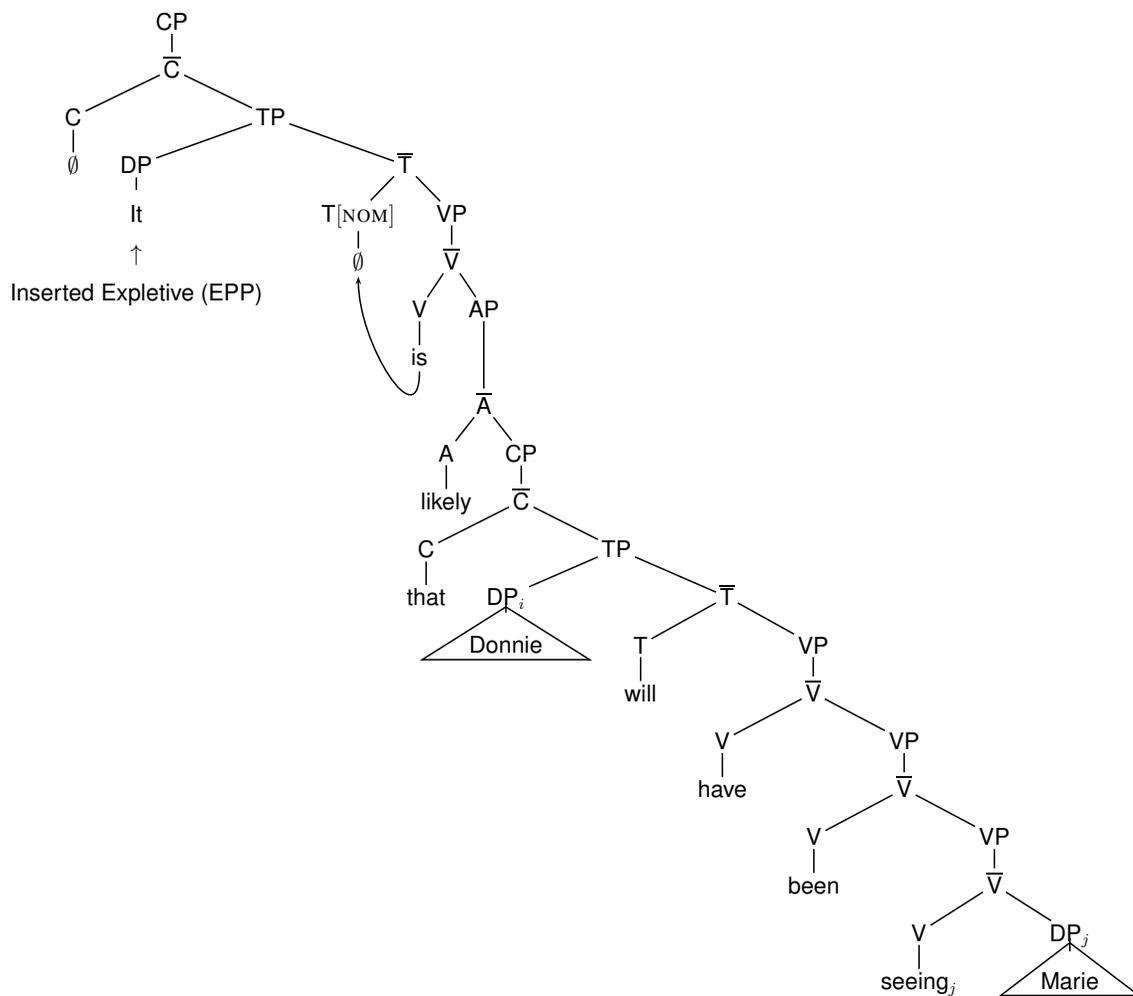
John did not kick Mary
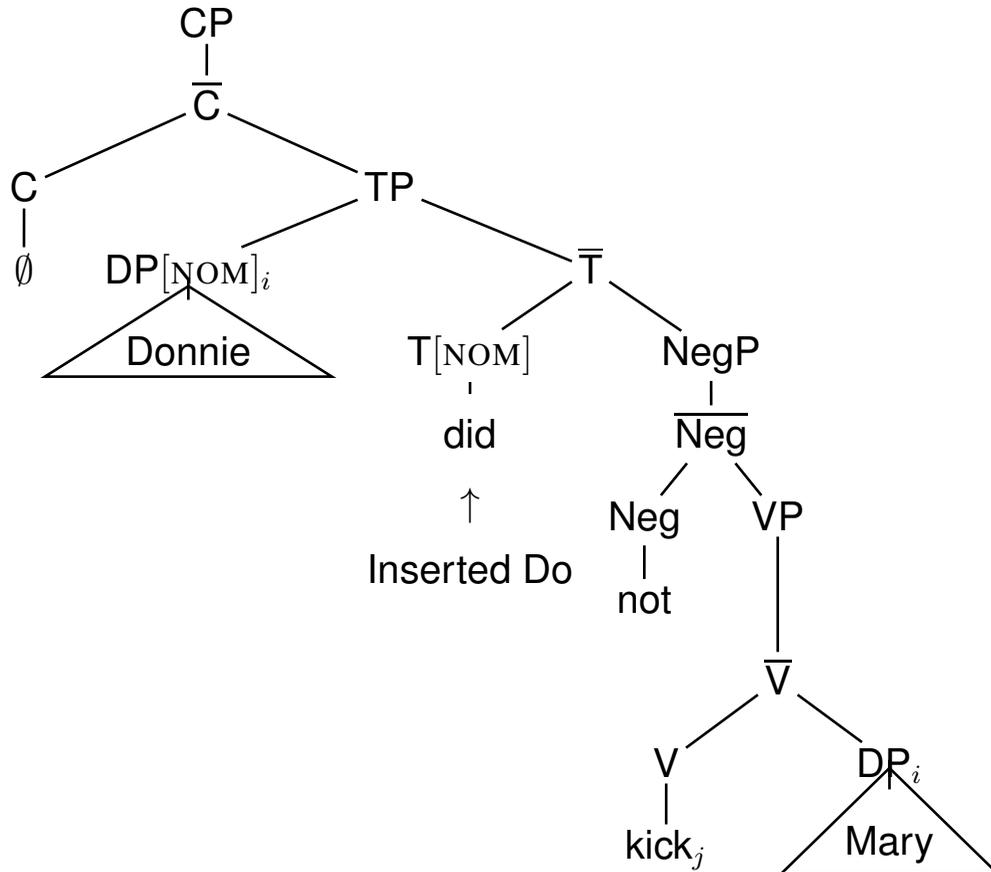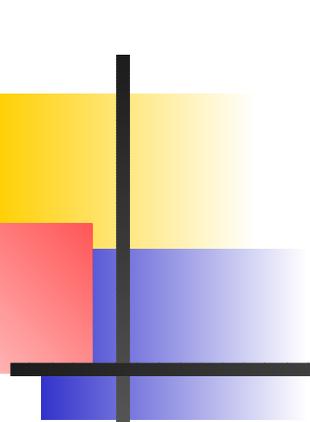
Part II

Problems

Haitian Creole

1. According to the glosses in the data the Haitian (a) annd (b) sentences are paraphrases just as the English sentences are. This suggests that *Jan* ("John") receives no θ-role from *sanble* ("seem"). If this is right, then (b) *Jan sanble li pati* would be a violation of the θ criterion unless *Jan* moved to the matrix subject position, leaving *li* behind as a trace.

2. Sentence (c) shows that that the pronoun/trace must be realized as a pronoun. This is something that distinguishes Haitian Creole from English: Traces (at least some traces) must be pronounced.

3. If our movement account is right, example (b) is not a violation of the θ-criterion. At D-structure, when the θ criterion applies, there is only one NP present in the lower clause (*Jan*). The pronoun/trace *li* appears only after movement and after the θ-criterion applies.

Tewa

hei sen nei enu mankhwedi
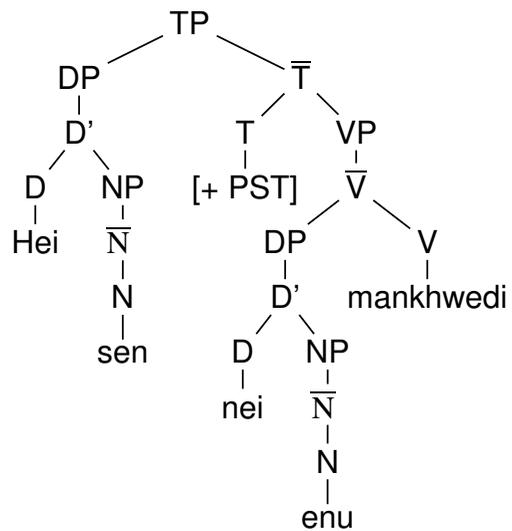
1. Tewa is Head final:

   X' → (WP) X   Comp

   XP → (WP) X'   Spec

   X' → (WP) X'   Adj

2. Affix lowering assumed.

Tewa

hei sen nei enu mankhwedi
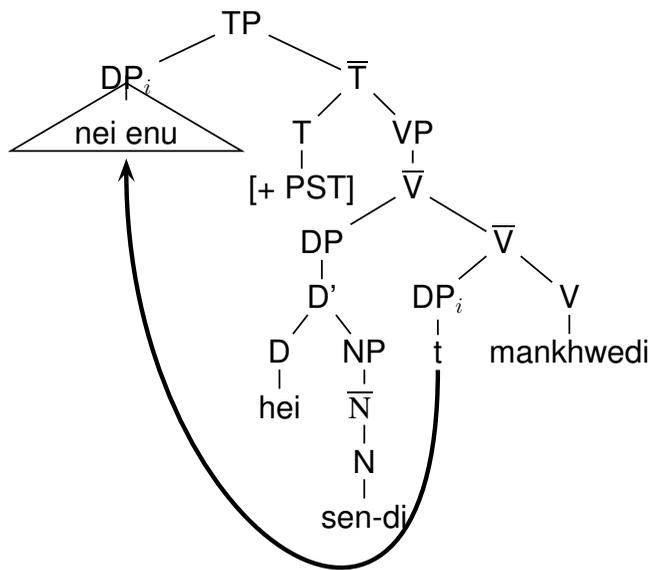
1. c & d: *Theme* assumed to move to spec of TP to get case. Agent role absorbed.

2. Optional Agent treated as an adjunct like the *by-phrase* in English.

Impersonals

1. The two impersonal passives share the following properties. They are both missing their agents and the themes are both in Accusative case (Ukrainian *Cervku*, Kannada *Ramma*).

2. This suggests that in these languages, unlike English, the passive affix does not rob a verb of the ability to assign accusative case.

3. Therefore, what characterizes the passive in these languages is that it absorbs the Agent role.

Stump the grammar

1. *It seems [CP Sonny to love Cher.]

   As subject of a nonfinite clause, *Sonny* does not get nominative case checked. Case filter violation.

2. *Bill$_i$ was bitten$_j$ the dog$_k$,
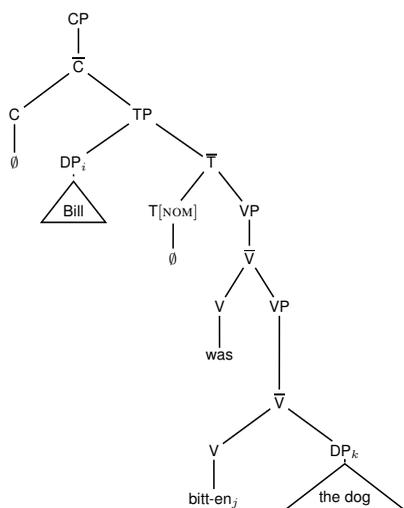
bite

Agent	Theme	
DP ___	DP ___	___
j	k	i

Since there are no traces shown here I am assuming we are considering a derivation on which there was no movement. There are two problems. First, *Bill* in subject position gets no θ-role, as shown in the θ grid. Second, the affix *en* robs the verb of the ability to check accusative case, so *the dog* does not have its case checked. Thus, we have both a θ-criterion violation and a Case filter violation.

Grammar-stumping ctd

3. Donny is likely that [$_{CP}$ t left.]

> The same case feature can't be checked twice. *Donny* gets its nominative case checked once in the finite clause and again as subject of the finite matrix clause. We have been calling such cases cases of unmotivated movement in class. This is actually a more general idea than no-checking-twice.

4. * It seems [$_{CP}$ Donny to be likely that t$_i$ was happy.]

> This is a case filter violation. As subject of the finite T *was*, Donny gets nominative case in the lower clause, so there is no need for more movement. It has just moved unnnecessarily. Notice that it actually doesn't get its case feature checked twice, but it's still bad. The reason is that the case Filter requires that the DP *end up* in a case position at S-structure, and that isn't the case for the NP *Donnie*. It ends up as subject of the nonfinite clause *Donnie to be likely*.

Raising theta grid

[John]$_i$ is likely [$_{CP}$ t to be leaving]$_j$

Since John MOVES into subject position of *appear* he gets no theta role from it.

D-struc: $\emptyset_{\text{- pst}}$ is likely [$_{CP}$ [John]$_i$ to be leaving]$_j$

be likely

proposition
CP
j

leave

Agent
DP
i