Problem Session: Binding Theory and X-bar Theory

Answer Key

1. NP types

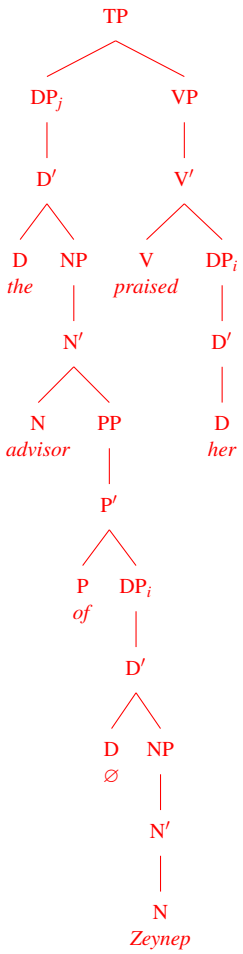
a. *İrem*: R-expression; *herself*: anaphor; *the new neighbors*: R-expression.
b. *The players of Fenerbahçe*: R-expression; *they*: pronoun; *each other*: anaphor.
c. *The drummer*: R-expression; *himself*: anaphor; *the concert*: R-expression.

2. Coindexation vs. binding

a. (i) No. *Zeynep* is inside the subject DP and does not c-command *her* (see tree).
(ii) No. The subject DP c-commands *her*, but they are not coindexed.

b. (i) Yes. (ii) No: *Ayşe* c-commands *him*, but they are not coindexed.

c. (i) No: not coindexed, and the possessor does not c-command *himself*. (ii) Yes.



3. What went wrong?

(1) **B.** *Onur* binds *him* in the same clause.

(2) **A and C.** No NP c-commands *himself*. *Himself* binds *Onur*.

(3) **A.** In the embedded clause the only NP that c-commands *herself* is *Onur*, and the index differs.

(4) **C.** *She* binds *İrem*.

(5) **A.** The possessor *İrem* does not c-command *herself*.

(6) **D.** *She* is bound only from outside its clause.

(7) **B.** The subject binds *them* in the same clause.

(8) **D.** In the embedded clause the only NP that c-commands *them* is *the band*, and the index differs.

(9) **D.** The possessor *Onur* does not c-command *him*.

(10) **C.** The first *İrem* binds the second.

4. Possible indices

a. *herself*$_{j/*i/*k}$. It must be bound in the embedded clause, and only *Feride* c-commands it there.
b. *her*$_{i/k/*j}$. $*_j$: *Feride* c-commands *her* in the same clause (Principle B).
c. *her*$_{k/*i}$. $*_i$: *İrem* c-commands *her* in the same clause (Principle B).
d. *She*$_{k/*i/*j}$. $*_i$, $*_j$: *she* would bind an R-expression (Principle C).

5. Complement or adjunct?

a. *of Harry Styles*: complement. *from Ankara*: adjunct.

- *one*: *the fan of Harry Styles from Ankara and the one from İzmir* ✓ **the fan of Harry Styles and the one of Taylor Swift*
- Order: **a fan from Ankara of Harry Styles.*

b. *on the ferry*: adjunct. *the novel*: complement.

- *do so*: *İrem read the novel on the ferry, and Onur did so on the bus.* ✓ **İrem read the novel, and Onur did so the poem.*
- Order: **İrem read on the ferry the novel.*

c. Both are adjuncts.

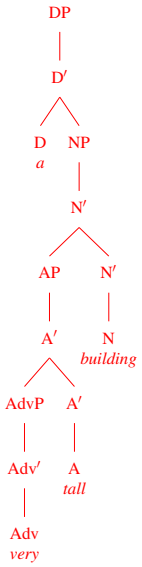
- *do so*: *Onur painted the fence with a brush on Saturday, and İrem did so on Sunday.* ✓ *...and İrem did so with a roller on Sunday.* ✓
- Reordering: *painted the fence on Saturday with a brush.* ✓

6. Draw the X-bar trees

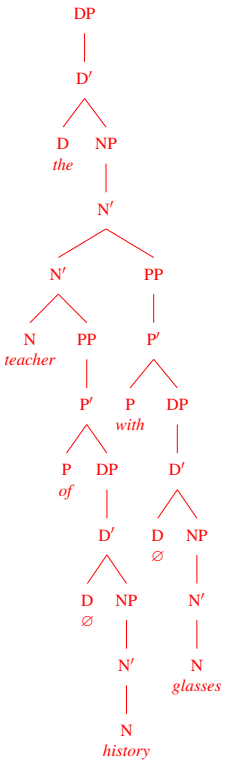
a.



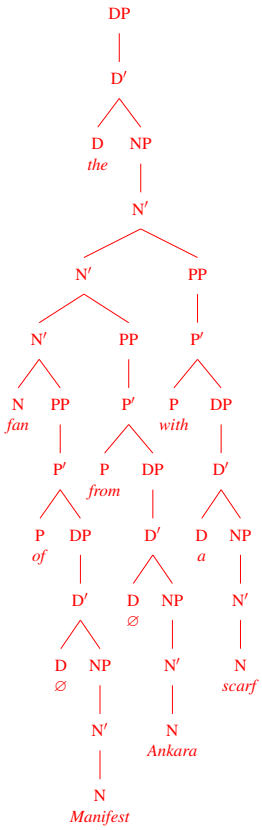
b.



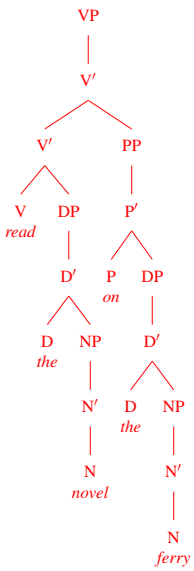
c.


DP
D′
D NP
the
N′
N′ PP
N PP P′
teacher
P′ P DP
with
P DP D′
of
D′ D NP
∅
D NP N′
∅
N′ N
glasses
N′
N
history

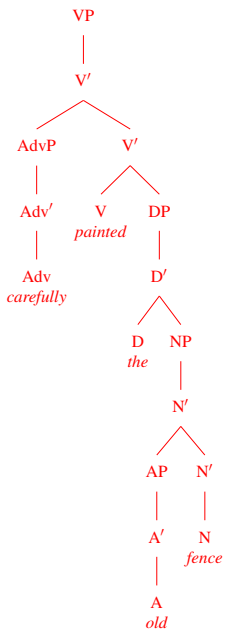
d.


DP
D′
D NP
the
N′
N′ PP
N′ PP P′
N PP P′ P DP
fan
with
P′ P DP D′
from
P DP D′ D NP
of
a
D′ D NP N′
∅
D NP N′ N
∅
scarf
N′ N
Ankara
N
Manifest

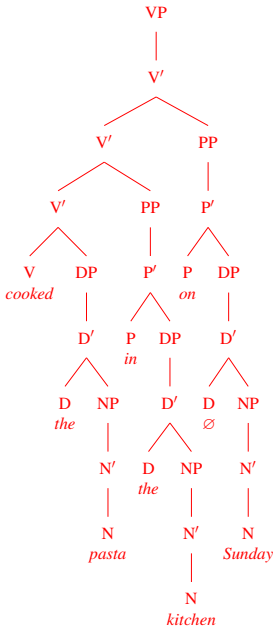
e.


VP
V′
V′ PP
V DP P′
read
D′ P DP
on
D NP D′
the
N′ D NP
the
N NP′
novel
N
ferry

f.


VP
V′
AdvP V′
Adv′ V DP
painted
Adv D′
carefully
D NP
the
N′
AP N′
A′ N
fence
A
old

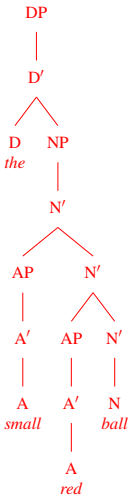
g.


VP
V′
V′ PP
V′ PP P′
V DP P′ P DP
cooked
on
D′ P DP D′
in
D NP D′ D NP
the
∅
N′ D NP N′
the
N
pasta
N′
N
Sunday
N
kitchen

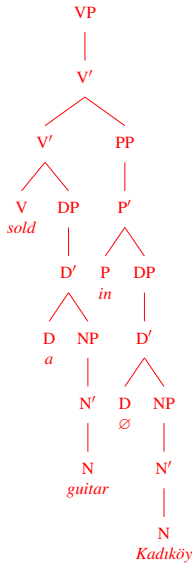
7. Spot the mistakes

The corrected trees use DP notation. D under NP and the missing D for *Kadıköy* and *history* are not mistakes in the original trees.

a. Both APs hang from one N′ and are sisters of N. Each adjunct needs its own N′.



b. V′ has three daughters, and the adjunct PP is a sister of V. It must attach to a higher V′.



c. *of history* is a complement, so there is no extra N′ and the PP is a sister of N. P′ is missing, and *history* has no N′.

