

Problem Session: Binding Theory and X-bar Theory

R-expression	an NP that gets its meaning by referring to an entity in the world (<i>İrem, the concert</i>).
Anaphor	an NP that <i>must</i> get its meaning from another NP in the sentence (<i>herself, themselves, each other</i>).
Pronoun	an NP that <i>may, but need not</i> , get its meaning from another NP in the sentence (<i>she, him, they</i>).
C-command	A c-commands B if every node dominating A also dominates B, and neither A nor B dominates the other. Informally: a node c-commands its sister and everything inside its sister.
Binds	A binds B if and only if A c-commands B <i>and</i> A and B are coindexed. Free = not bound.
Binding domain	the clause (TP) containing the NP.
Principle A	An anaphor must be bound in its binding domain.
Principle B	A pronoun must be free in its binding domain.
Principle C	An R-expression must be free (anywhere in the sentence).

1. NP types

Classify each **boldfaced** NP as an *R-expression*, an *anaphor*, or a *pronoun*.

- (a) **İrem** introduced **herself** to **the new neighbors**.
- (b) **The players of Fenerbahçe** said that **they** would thank **each other** on the pitch.
- (c) **The drummer** hurt **himself** during **the concert**.

2. Coindexation vs. binding

For each pair, say whether the first NP binds the second. If it does not, say which part of the definition fails: c-command, coindexation, or both. (This question is about the definition of binding, not about Principles A, B, C.)

- (a) [The advisor of Zeynep]_i praised her_i. (i) *Zeynep* → *her* (ii) *the advisor of Zeynep* → *her*
- (b) Onur_i said that Ayşe_j trusted him_i. (i) *Onur* → *him* (ii) *Ayşe* → *him*
- (c) [İrem_i's brother]_j hit himself_j. (i) *İrem* → *himself* (ii) *İrem's brother* → *himself*

3. What went wrong? (multiple choice)

Some of these sentences are ungrammatical with the indices given, and some are fine. For each one, circle all answers that apply, then justify your choice in one sentence: name the relevant NP, its binding domain, and what c-commands it.

(A) violates Principle A (B) violates Principle B (C) violates Principle C (D) no violation

- (1) Onur_i criticized him_i. A B C D
- (2) Himself_i called Onur_i. A B C D
- (3) İrem_i thinks that Onur_j admires herself_i. A B C D
- (4) She_i claimed that İrem_i had missed the concert. A B C D
- (5) [İrem_i's manager]_j blamed herself_i. A B C D

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| (6) İrem _i said that she _i was tired. | A | B | C | D |
| (7) [The members of Crush] _i introduced them _i . | A | B | C | D |
| (8) [The fans of Manifest] _i believed that the band _j loved them _i . | A | B | C | D |
| (9) [Onur _i 's advisor] _j praised him _i . | A | B | C | D |
| (10) İrem _i hopes that İrem _i will win. | A | B | C | D |

4. Possible indices

Which NPs can the **boldfaced** NP be coindexed with? Show your answer with the notation used in class, for example *her_{i/*j}*, and give the reason for every * you write. Use *k* for a person not mentioned in the sentence.

- (a) İrem_i said that Feride_j criticized **herself**.
- (b) İrem_i said that Feride_j criticized **her**.
- (c) İrem_i criticized **her**.
- (d) **She** said that İrem_i criticized Feride_j.

5. Complement or adjunct?

For each bracketed phrase, decide whether it is a **complement** or an **adjunct** of the head. Support each decision with a pro-form test (*one* or *do so*) and one other test (ordering, reordering among adjuncts, or coordination of likes). Write out your test sentences and mark them ✓ or *.

- (a) Onur met a fan [of Harry Styles] [from Ankara].
- (b) İrem read the novel [on the ferry]. (Also: what about [*the novel*]?)
- (c) Onur painted the fence [with a brush] [on Saturday].

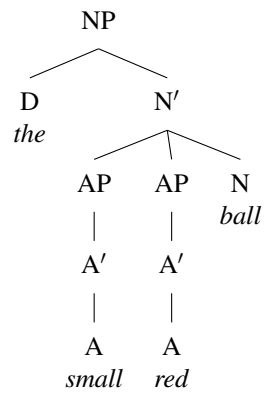
6. Draw the X-bar trees

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| (a) a tiny old cat | (e) read the novel on the ferry
(= the reading happened on the ferry) |
| (b) a very tall building | (f) carefully painted the old fence |
| (c) the teacher of history with glasses | (g) cooked the pasta in the kitchen on Sunday |
| (d) the fan of Manifest from Ankara with a scarf | |

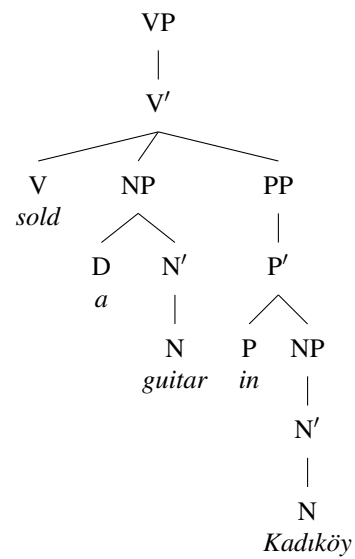
7. Spot the mistakes

Each tree below has at least one mistake. Say what is wrong, and draw the correct tree.

a. *the small red ball*



b. *sold a guitar in Kadıköy*



c. *the teacher of history*

