

Ling 315, Assignment 2. Due Wed 24 Sept 2008.

Note that there are three parts.

Part A.

Using our most recent grammar, provide derivations for the following sentences:

- (1) Andrij always says goodnight to his housemates before bed.
- (2) [In answer to (1)] Do you?
- (3) Is that a cup of tea from Japan?

(3) is ambiguous, but you need only give a derivation for one reading of the sentence. Provide a paraphrase of the reading of the sentence you derive.

Part B. Do the Haitian Creole exercise handed out on Friday.

Part C. VP Ellipsis in Hebrew. (Data from Goldberg 2005).

Consider the following examples from English:

- (4) Question: Did Tamara buy coffee?
Answer: Yes, she did.

In (4b), the VP *buy coffee* has undergone ellipsis, and *do* is inserted by *do*-support.

Unlike English, in Hebrew, the main verb is actually repeated in answers to *yes-no* questions:

- (5) Question: (Ha'im) Tamar kanta kafe?
Q Tamar bought coffee
“(Did) Tamar buy coffee?”

Answer: Ken, hi kanta.
Yes she bought
“Yes, she did.”

- (6) Question: (Ha'im) Miryam hisi'a et Dvora la-makolet?
Q Miryam drove ACC Dvora to.the-grocery.store
“(Did) Miryam drive Dvora to the grocery store?”

Answer: Ken, hi hisi'a.
Yes, she drove
“Yes, she did.”

Assuming that Hebrew has the same rule of VP Ellipsis as English – that is, a full VP is deleted – what can you conclude from these examples about the position of the main verb at surface structure in Hebrew? A short, one- or two-sentence answer is sufficient.