2 POSSIBLE POSITIONS FOR THE PARTICLE

ADJACENT
to the verb

favouring
semantic
processing

*Max **finished up** the project* 🙂

Lohse, Hawkins & Wasow, 2004

SHIFTED
after the object NP

favouring
syntactic
processing

*Max **finished** the project **up*** 😀

NP = Noun Phrase

‣ syntax-semantics interface
‣ local dependencies

FACTORS DETERMINING THE PARTICLE POSITION

▸ **VPC** SEMANTIC TRANSPARENCY

TRANSPARENT +   finish up ≅ finish

TRANSPARENCY

look up ≅ look

OPAQUE −   **screw up ≇ screw**