[1] canonical version non-canonical version

i a. *Kim wrote the letter.* b. *The letter was written by Kim.*

ii a. *Two doctors were on the plane.* b. *There were two doctors on the plane.*

iii a. *We rejected six of the applications.* b. *Six of the applications we rejected.*

[2] i a. \**The nanny said Kim to have been*  b. *Kim was said by the nanny to have*

*devoted to the children. been devoted to the children.*

ii a. #*An accident was at the factory.* b. *There was an accident at the factory.*

iii a. \**I find that he got away with it for* b. *That he got away with it for so long*

*so long incredible. I find incredible.*

[3] i a. *Kim didn't sign many of them.* b. *Many of them weren't signed by Kim.*

ii a. *Many MPs weren't in the House.* b. *There weren't many MPs in the House.*

iii a. *I haven't met many of her friends.* b. *Many of her friends I haven't met.*

[4] i preposing *This one she accepted. She accepted this one.*

ii postposing *I made without delay all the I made all the changes you*

*changes you suggested. suggested without delay.*

iii inversion *On board were two nurses. Two nurses were on board.*

iv existential *There was a frog in the pool.* *A frog was in the pool.*

v extraposition *It is clear that he is guilty. That he is guilty is clear.*

vi left dislocation *That money she gave us, it That money she gave us*

*seems to have disappeared. seems to have disappeared.*

vii right dislocation *They're still here, the others*. *The others are still here.*

viii cleft *It was you who suggested it. You suggested it.*

ix passive *The car was taken by my son.* *My son took the car.*

[5] i a. *Everyone assumed that Jill would win.*

b. *It was assumed by everyone that Jill would win.* [passive, extraposition]

ii a. *The police had interviewed Kim.*

b. *Kim it was who had been interviewed by the police.* [passive, cleft, preposing]

[1] i *Two letters have arrived for Jill; she'll be calling round to pick them up.*

ii *I haven't heard from Jill for a long time have you?*

iii *As a child, I used to pretend a unicorn lived in my backyard. I called him Jo.*

iv A: *What did Max tell Jill?* B: *He told her I'd been delayed at the office.*

[2] i *I don't in general care for puzzles, but crossword puzzles are fun.*

ii *I tried to get into the library after hours, but the door was locked.*

iii *That book is awful; the author doesn't have any writing ability at all.*

[3] i *I walked into the kitchen.* [*On a stool was a large book.*]

ii *I walked into the kitchen.* [#*On an overcoat was a large book.*]

[4] A: *Are those cupcakes for sale?* B: *No, they're a special order. But the bagels you can have.*

[5] *The President is giving the State of the Union address later tonight.*

[6] *Mary bought rice yesterday.*

[7] *She bought a bag of rice.*

[8] A: *What did they buy?* B: *Mary bought a bag of rice, ...*

[9] A: *Did they give the job to you or to Mary?* B: *They gave it to her.*

[10] i a. *Sue picked up the dog.* b. *Sue picked the dog up.*

ii a. *Sue picked up a couple of boxes* b. ?*Sue picked a couple of boxes containing*

*containing old computer manuals. old computer manuals up.*

[11] i *One of his daughters was running a computer store, while the other was still at university, reading law. The one running the computer store earned nearly as much as he did.*

ii *There's a toad in the pool.*

[12] [*As for external funding,*] *Smith has a grant application pending.*

[13] i Heavy constituents tend to occur at or towards the end of the clause.

ii The focus typically appears at or towards the end of the clause.

iii Subjects are the dependents that are the most likely to be addressee-old.

iv Information that is familiar tends to be placed before that which is new.

v Information-packaging constructions tend to be restricted with respect to the range of contexts in which they can felicitously occur.

[1] i *Most of it she had written \_\_ herself.*

ii *Anything you don't eat put \_\_ back in the fridge.*

iii *It appears* [*that from one of them he had borrowed several hundred dollars \_\_*]*.*

[2] i *In New York there is always something to do.*

ii #*In a basket I put your clothes.*

[3] i a. A: *Can I have a bagel?* B: *Sorry, we're out of bagels.* A: *How about a bran muffin?* B: [*A bran muffin I can give you.*]

b. A: *Do you have any muffins?* B: [*A bran muffin I can give you.*]

c. A: *Can I have a bagel?* B: *Sorry, we're out of bagels.* [*A bran muffin I can give you.*]

ii A: *Where can I buy a pen like that?* B: *At the bookstore.* [*Six dollars it costs.*]

[4] *I was in the library last night and* [#*an interesting guy I met*]*.*

[5] i *Colonel Bykov had delivered to Chambers in Washington six Bokhara rugs which he directed Chambers to present as gifts from him and the Soviet Government to the members of the ring who had been most co‑operative.* [*One of these rugs Chambers delivered to Harry Dexter White.*]

ii A: *Did you buy a whole new wardrobe for school?* B: *No, I have lots of clothes.* [*Most of my stuff my mom gets at Alexander's.*]

[6] i *I work on the 6th floor of a building. I know some of the elevator riders well.* [*Others I have only that nodding acquaintance with*] *and some are total strangers.*

ii *Consume they did not only 15 kegs of beer, which they guzzled like soda pop, but also the free Coors posters which they seized as works of art to adorn their dorm walls.* [*For their heads, they were given free Coors hats*] *and for their cars free Coors bumper stickers.*

iii A: *This is not another vulgar disgusting sexploitation film.* B: [*Vulgar it's not. Dumb it is.*] *Did we see the same movie?*

iv *As members of a Gray Panthers committee, we went to Canada to learn, and* [*learn we did*]*.*

[7] i *The Philadelphia Fish & Co. is grilling fresh seafood so good the competition is broiling mad.* [*Casual and affordable they are. Expensive they are not.*]

ii *The ratings no doubt will show that some small number of Americans failed to escape and ended up watching the two‑hour NBC `World Premiere Movie'.* [*A premiere it may be, but new it's not.*]

iii [*Pretty they aren't. But a sweet golden grapefruit taste they have.*]

[8] i *`In the early days, our productions were cheap and cheerful,' says producer John Weaver of London‑based Keefco. `We'd go into a seven‑light studio, shoot the band in one afternoon and edit as we went along. The client would walk out with a tape that day.'* [*Today's tapes may still be cheerful, but cheap they are not.*]

ii A: *All my friends think she's wonderful and generous. Well, she's certainly generous ...* B: [*Wonderful you're not so sure about?*]

iii A: *I can't stand him. He's stupid, arrogant and totally off‑the‑wall.* B: [*Stupid I wouldn't really say he is.*]

[9] i *There are two issues we'll have to deal with.* [*One we can discuss tomorrow.*]

ii A: *Do you think you'd be more nervous in a job talk or a job interview?*

iii *In the VIP section of the commissary at 20th Century‑Fox, the studio's elite gather for lunch and gossip. The prized table is reserved for Mel Brooks, and* [*from it he dispenses advice, jokes and invitations to passers‑by*]*.*

[10] i *My neighbours have a huge back yard.* [*Through it they've run a string of beautiful Japanese lanterns.*]

ii *My neighbours have a huge back yard.* [#*Through it my kids like to run.*]

[11] i *I've promised to help them* [*and help them I will*]*.*

ii *It's odd that Diane should have said that, if* [*say it she did*]*.*

iii *The NBA's new labor agreement sounds as though it were written by the IRS.* [*Simple it is not.*]

[12] i *The developers either couldn't count or they didn't count on the city enforcing the law.* [*But enforce the law we did, all the way to the United States Supreme Court.*]

ii *Inside the truck was beer for the students' consumption.* [*Consume they did not only 15 kegs of beer, but also the free posters which they seized to adorn their dorm walls.*]

[13] i *Asked what he thought about during today's race on a sultry day, Tour de France winner Greg LeMond said: `I didn't think. I just rode.'* [*Ride he did.*] *LeMond won the time trial easily.*

ii *At the end of the term I took my first exams; it was necessary to pass if I was to stay at Oxford, and* [*pass I did*]*.*

[14] i *It was ironic that he eventually learned more of his mother's story from her papers and tapes than he had from her.* [*But learn her story he did.*]

ii *Waiting in long lines can be infuriating. Waiting in long lines to pay someone else money seems unconscionable. Waiting in long lines to pay someone else more money than they seem to be entitled to is lunacy.* [*But wait in line they did Monday in Chicago and the Cook County suburbs.*]

[15] i *`This is one of the things that symbolises the best Evanston has to offer,' David Bradford, chairman of the Evanston Human Relations Commissions, said at a public hearing Saturday. `People will come out and talk about things.'* [*And talk they did.*] *For five hours more than 150 residents, police officers and officials, community leaders and politicians filled to capacity the City Council chambers in a public hearing.*

ii *Kenny Rogers had asked his fans to bring cans to his concerts to feed the hungry in the area.* [*And bring cans they did.*]

[16] i *Andy bet me $10 he would get a hundred on his exam,* [*and get a hundred he did*]*. No one else got more than eighty.*

ii *I'm so proud of Andy for getting a hundred on his exam,* [#*and get a hundred he did*]*. No one else got more than eighty.*

[17] i A: *What would you like for breakfast?* B: *French toast.* A: [*French toast it is.*]

ii A: *At First Bank you choose the length of your certificates.* B: *What if I want a certificate for only fourteen days?* A: [*Then fourteen days it is.*]

[18] i A: *It must have surprised you to hear we're home again.* B: *Yes,* [*that it did*]*.*

ii A: *George Carlin is a great comedian.* B: [*That he is.*]

iii A: *Are you thinking about leaving?* B: [*That I am.*]

[19] *Mark submitted his report late, if* [*submit it he did*]*.*

[20] i *The NBA's new collective‑bargaining agreement sounds as though it was written by the same people who put together the Internal Revenue Service's long form.* [*Simple it is not.*]

ii *I will long cherish Mickey Rooney's appearance to receive a special Oscar in recognition of his 60 years as a performer.* [*Humble he wasn't,*] *but why should he be? As he told us rather curtly, he'd been the world's biggest box office star at 19.*

[21] i *The TV repairman keeps looking in the mirror.* [*A sex symbol he's not.*]

ii *I don't think the TV repairman knows what he's doing.* [#*A sex symbol he's not.*]

[22] i [*Mount Everest it wasn't,*] *but Engineering School sophomore Benno Matschinsky prepares to rappel from the South St. Bridge yesterday afternoon, and then falls graciously with a safety rope toward the ground.*

ii *The triumphant mood is broken when an usher from the movie theatre next door strolls over. `You're blocking our marquee' he bellows in my ear, making it clear that I should move on hastily.*

[*Carnegie Hall it isn't,*] *but for an amateur musician, a bustling sidewalk can be as good a place as any to begin.*

[23] i *He suggested I phone Emma,* [#*so Emma I phoned*]*.*

ii *He suggested I phone Emma,* [*so phone her I did*]*.*

[24] *I've put Jones in the Green Room* [*and in the Green Room he stays*]*.*

[25] i *He said he wouldn't tell them,* [*but tell*/*told them he has*]*.*

ii *He denies he has told them,* [*but tell*/*told them he has*]*.*

[26] i *I made a lot of sweetbreads.* [*A couple of pounds I think I made for her.*]

ii *I had two really good friends.* [*Damon and Jimmy their names were.*]

iii *I promised my father* [*on Christmas Eve it was*] *to write home at my first opportunity.*

iv A: *Did you want tea?* B: [*Coffee I ordered.*]

[27] i A: *Cheeseburger, large fries, and a large Coke.* B: [*Large fries you wanted?*]

ii A: *I wish Newt Gingrich were running.* B: [*Newt Gingrich you'd vote for?*]

iii A: *Diane gets along with all her colleagues.* B: [*David she gets along with?*]

[1] i *Spain's financial problems were less acute than* [*had been those of Portugal*]*.*

ii *He seemed at that time very much more sympathetic to the idea than he is now.*

iii *There was in her manner a certain aloofness that I found quite disconcerting.*

iv *Chris put on the table a large blue bucket full of ice-cubes.*

[2] default order version version with postposing

i a. *You weren't as ill as* [*I had been*]*.* b. #*You weren't as ill as* [*had been I*]*.*

ii a. *She seemed sad at that time.* b. ?*She seemed at that time sad.*

iii a. *There is some milk in the fridge.* b. ?*There is in the fridge some milk.*

iv a. *Chris put his elbows on the table.* b. #*Chris put on the table his elbows.*

[3] i a. *You'll find the company's latest* b. *You'll find on your desk the company's*

*financial statement on your desk. latest financial statement.*

ii a. *You'll find the company's latest* b. ?*You'll find in the top drawer of the tall*

*financial statement in the top drawer black filing cabinet alongside the*

*of the tall black filing cabinet window the company's latest financial*

*alongside the window. statement.*

iii a. ?*You'll find the report that the*  b. *You'll find on your desk the report*

*company has prepared in response that the company has prepared in*

*to the secretary's latest allegations response to the secretary's latest*

*on your desk. allegations.*

[4] i a. *I brought the chairs in.* b. *I brought in the chairs.*

ii a. *I brought them in.* b. \**I brought in them.*

[5] *Jenkins walked back into the office and glanced out of the window. Turning around, he saw on the desk a gun.*

[6] i *The best solution, suggested Pat, would be to install a security alarm system.*

ii *Said Manager Kim Kessels: `This is our best result in 20 years!'*

[7] i *I have read very carefully* / *several times all the articles she has written.*

ii *I found rather more promising the proposals that his sister had made.*

[8] ?*He considers an idiot just about anyone who disagrees with him.*

[9] i *They gave anyone who scored over 90% a special prize.* [Oi + Od]

ii \**They gave a special prize anyone who scored over 90%.* [Od + Oi]

iii *They gave a special prize* [*to anyone who scored over 90%*]*.* [Od + PP comp]

[10] i *I believe one of the systems analysts we brought in from Ohio to be responsible.*

ii ?*I believe to be responsible one of the systems analysts we brought in from Ohio.*

[11] i *George, can you do me a favour?* [*Up in my room, on the nightstand, is a pinkish‑reddish envelope that has to go out immediately.*]

ii [*Immediately recognisable here is the basic, profoundly false tenet of Movie Philosophy 101, as it has been handed down from Auntie Mame and Harold and Maude:*] *Nonconformism, the more radical the better, is the only sure route to human happiness and self‑fulfillment.*

iii *She's a nice woman, isn't she?* [*Also a nice woman is our next guest*] *...*

iv *Arrested were Nathan Johnson, 23, of New York, and his brother, Victor Johnson, 32, a 15‑year Army veteran.*

v *This jacket and cap will keep you warm throughout the chilly autumn days. The jacket is made of a particularly heavy brushed denim, with rivets at the pockets and a brown suede collar.* [*Complementing the jacket is the cap, crafted of the same denim and featuring a brown suede visor.*]

vi *On Saturday they received an astonishing 14 credit offers in the mail.* [*Three days later came another eight offers.*]

[12] i *Being driven out of office was Senator Johnson.* [progressive]

ii *Driven out of office was Senator Johnson.* [non-progressive]

[13] i The preposed phrase must not represent information that is less familiar in the discourse than that represented by the postposed NP.

ii Unless the preposed dependent is semantically locative, the inversion requires an appropriate open proposition that is discourse-old.

iii The verb must not represent information that is new to the discourse.

[14] i *They have a great big tank in the kitchen,* [*and in the tank are sitting a whole bunch of pots*]*.*

ii *They have a whole bunch of pots in the kitchen,* [#*and in a great big tank are sitting all of the pots*]*.*

[15] *I had lunch at Ritzy's yesterday, and you wouldn't believe who was there.* [*Behind a cluster of microphones was Hillary Clinton*]*, holding another press conference.*

[16] *Lieberman and Clinton go way back. When Lieberman made his run for the Connecticut Senate seat in 1970,* [*helping him as a young volunteer was Clinton,*] *a young Yale law student.*

[17] *In a little wooden house in the middle of a deep forest lived a solitary woman who spent her days reading and gardening.*

[18] i *She had recently won the lottery, and had hidden the money under her mattress.*

ii *It was badly in need of repairs, and everyone who saw it wondered whether it could hold up another year with its broken shutters and fractured foundation.*

[19] *Hey, did you hear the weird report on the evening news?* [#*In the basement of a department store are living a bunch of alligators*]*.*

[20] i *Two young men were hurt yesterday during a bungled convenience-store robbery, according to police. Two suspects were arrested at the scene and are now in custody.* [*Wounded were James Randolph and Steve Seymour.*]

ii *The Air & Water Show did not go as planned yesterday.* [#*Wounded were James Randolph and Steve Seymour.*]

iii *They had every kind of cake imaginable, all lined up in a row.* [*Adorning the first one was a monstrous rose sculpted from white chocolate.*]

[21] i *The low‑income high‑rises are universally considered to be among the ugliest complexes in the city.* [*To the west of the group of ten buildings flows the Grayson River, one of the most polluted in the country.*]

ii *My neighbours have a huge back yard.* [*Through it runs a string of beautiful Japanese lanterns.*]

iii *My neighbours have a huge back yard.* [#*Through it run my kids almost every afternoon.*]

[22] i *He opened the door and took a folded canvas bucket from behind the seat.* [*Coiled on the floor lay a fifty‑foot length of braided nylon climbing rope.*]

ii *Beneath the chin lap of the helmet sprouted black whiskers.*

iii *On the manager's desk sat a large manila envelope.*

iv [*At odds with the mayor remain the residents of the condos,*] *who are willing to fight a long battle over the additional taxes.*

[23] i *... one of the major focal points of our concern is the South-Asian region.* [*Here, in two nations alone, are almost five hundred million people, all working, and working hard, to raise their standards.*]

ii *At the distant edge of the river, I caught a glimpse of roofs and chimneys, and the quick glitter of glass that marked the hot-houses in the old walled garden that had belonged to the Hall.* [*There, too, lay the stables, and the house called West Lodge.*]

[24] i a. *Here was I, an African woman on the grants committee of a British aid agency, suggesting that we scrap a paragraph that dealt with `gender implications'.*

b. *And there was I imagining that underneath that hostile exterior there was a girl who really held me in high esteem.*

ii [viewing a photograph] *Here's*/*There's me, when I was six.*

iii a. *Here's*/*There's the money I owe you.*

b. *Here are your instructions. First, drive down to the bank, ...*

[25] a. *Here comes the bus.* b. *There goes my last dollar!*

[1] a. *There*pro *is nothing there*loc*.* b. *What is there*pro *there*loc*?*

[2] i *There*pro has no locative or other independent meaning.

ii *There*pro can be, and usually is, pronounced with a reduced vowel: /ð/.

iii *There*pro functions only as subject or raised object, and can fill the subject position in interrogative tags: *There is something wrong, isn't there?*

[3] a. *Several windows were open.* b. *There were several windows open.*

[4] i *There seems to have been a mistake.*

ii *We hadn't expected there to be over a hundred people at the meeting.*

[5] i *There were in his in-tray no fewer than thirty unpaid bills.*

ii *How much is there in the other account?*

iii *Two further points there are that I must make before we leave this topic.*

iv *You can have everything* [*there is on the table*] *for $30.*

[6] bare existential extended existential

i a. *There's no milk* (*again*)*.* b. *There's one copy on the table.*

ii a. (*Then*) *there was silence.* b. *There's Sue to consider.*

iii a. *There was a short delay* (*because* b. *There were two sirens blaring.*

*he'd mislaid his notes*)*.*

[7] i *There are good teachers and bad teachers.*

ii *There is plenty of ice-cream.*

iii *There is bound to be an official inquiry.*

iv *Is there a bus to the library?*

v *There's no doubt we're in a lot of trouble.*

vi *There can be no turning back now.*

[8] non-existential existential

i a. *A friend of yours is at the door.* b. *There's a friend of yours at the door.*

ii a. *One concert is on Sunday.* b. *There's one concert on Sunday.*

[9] i a. *Two delegates were absent.* b. *There were two delegates absent.*

ii a. *Two delegates were deaf.* b. #*There were two delegates deaf.*

iii a. *Two delegates were employees of*  b. #*There were two delegates employees of*

*the sponsor. the sponsor.*

iv a. *Is anything the matter?* b. *Is there anything the matter?*

[10] *afoot alarming asleep available awake better*

*certain different empty missing pleasing present*

*right sick surprising vacant worth wrong*

[11] i a. *A few replies are still to come.* b. *There are still a few replies to come.*

ii a. *One letter is* (*for you*) *to sign.* b. *There's one letter* (*for you*) *to sign.*

[12] i *There were* [*specimens measuring over twelve inches in length*]*.*

ii *There were* [*some letters written by her grandmother*] *in the safe.*

[13] i *There were* [*some boys*] *playing cricket.*

ii *There were* [*several people*] *killed.*

[14] i *There are* [*some people*] *going to be disadvantaged by the new tax system.*

ii *There were killed* [*some six hundred and fifty infantry from the 2nd Battalion*]*.*

iii *We postulate a system of particles* [*on which there are* [*some forces*] *acting*]*.*

[15] i *Some people are going to be disadvantaged by the new tax system*.

ii *Some six hundred and fifty infantry from the 2nd Battalion were killed.*

iii *We postulate a system of particles* [*on which some forces are acting*]*.*

[16] i *There are* [*people that have an IQ far greater than that*]*.* [modifier within NP]

ii *There was* [*one man*] *that kept interrupting.* [relative clause extension]

[17] i *There is a serious flaw in your own argument.*

ii #*A serious flaw is in your own argument.*

[18] i *There is a more serious flaw, however, in your own argument.*[[1]](#footnote-1)

ii #*There is the more serious flaw*, *however,* *in your own argument.*

[19] i a. *A furniture van was in the drive.* b. *There was a furniture van in the drive.*

ii a. *Two copies of Jill's thesis are on* b. *There are two copies of Jill's thesis on*

*my desk. my desk.*

[20] i a. #*Plenty of room is on the top shelf.* b. *There's plenty of room on the top shelf.*

ii a. #*A hole is in my jacket.* b. *There's a hole in my jacket.*

iii a. #*Sincerity was in her voice.* b. *There was sincerity in her voice.*

iv a. #*Peace was in the region.* b. *There was peace in the region.*

v a. #*An accident was in the studio.* b. *There was an accident in the studio.*

[21] i a. *One performance is at noon.* b. *There's one performance at noon.*

ii a. #*A fireworks display is tonight.* b. *There's a fireworks display tonight.*

[22] i a. *I had a terrible fright in the kitchen today. I just turned on the light,* [*and sitting in the corner, looking at me, there was a mouse*]*.*

b. *I saw a mouse in the kitchen today. I just turned on the light,* [#*and sitting in the corner, looking at me, there was the mouse*]*.*

ii a. *President Clinton appeared at the podium accompanied by three senators and Margaret Thatcher.* [*Behind him there was a bodyguard.*]

b. *President Clinton appeared at the podium accompanied by three senators and Margaret Thatcher.* [#*Behind him there was the Vice President.*]

[23] i *The voters are in a resentful mood, and the governor is adept at exploiting that resentment. His opponent is plagued by other problems as well; he has been accused of dalliances with his underlings, and his support for the funding of controversial art has gained him no friends among conservatives. His waffling on budgetary matters has been noted by several major newspapers.* [*And then there is that resentment.*]

ii A: *I can't imagine what I'm going to make for dinner tonight.* B: [*Well,* *there's that leftover meatloaf.*]

[24] A: *I know you want to go to the party, but you've got a lot of homework to do first. And wait didn't you promise your sister that you would spend this evening helping her practice for the school play?* B: *Well, yes* [*there is that*]*.*

[25] i *Physics majors are required to take three courses in a foreign language,* [*and* *there is the same requirement placed on students in the other sciences*]*.*

ii *The congressman's sex scandal has captured the entire country's attention.* [*There are the usual sleazy reasons for that, of course.*]

iii *The problem is* [*that there aren't the necessary funds to complete the project*]*.*

[26] i *There was the usual crowd at the beach today. They were there yesterday, too.*

ii *There was the usual crowd at the beach today, but this time they were dispersed by the police for being a public nuisance.*

iii *There was the usual crowd at the beach today. They were there yesterday, too, but this time they were dispersed by the police for being a public nuisance.*

[27] *Jones' stand on abortion angered Republicans for being too liberal and Democrats for being too conservative,* [*and there was this problem with many of his other views as well*]*.*

[28] i *I must be getting sensitive to garlic; it's upset my stomach twice this week. The first time was on Sunday, when I had way too much garlic bread.* [*Then there was the spicy pasta that you and I shared at lunch yesterday.*]

ii A: *What can I get Mary for her birthday?* B: [*There's the new book on birdwatching we were talking about yesterday.*]

[29] i A: *Who was at the party last night?* B: [*There was Mary, Sue, Fred, Matt, and Sam.*]

ii *I had a really great time last night.* [#*There was Mary, Sue, Fred, Matt, and Sam at this party I went to.*]

[30] i A: *What's in that drawer?* B: [*There's the stapler, but nothing else.*]

ii A: *What's in that drawer?* B: [#*There's the stapler.*]

[31] i *In addition to interest‑rate risk, there is the added risk that when interest rates fall, mortgages will be prepaid, thereby reducing the Portfolio's future income stream.*

ii *In Johnson's latest article, there is the claim that earthquakes are affected by the tides.*

iii *There was the world's tallest man at the circus.*

iv *If you look at the map, you can see the intersection,* [*and then a couple of miles north of that, there is this road here that runs from the northwest to the southeast.*]

v *There was the sound of a sharp slap, and then a loud cry.*

[32] i %*Last week there was this strange dog wandering around the neighbourhood.*

ii %*Early in the 70s, there was this rock guitarist that I liked so much that I bought all of his albums.*

[33] i a. *Some*/*Many*/*Most*/*All small businesses* b. *There are some*/*many*/#*most*/#*all small*

*are experiencing difficulties. businesses experiencing difficulties.*

ii a. *A*/*One*/*Each*/*Every student from my*  b. *There had been a*/*one*/#*each*/#*every*

*class had been at the meeting. student from my class at the meeting.*

[34] i *Among our dresses there were most kinds of shabby and greasy wear and much fustian and corduroy that was neither sound nor fragrant.*

ii *There are all kinds of insurance policies that can meet your needs.*[[2]](#footnote-2)

iii *There's still each student in Group C to be interviewed.*

iv *I think that's probably still a NASA job because of the number of contractors involved.* [*In firing room two, there's every contractor we've got, just about, over there.*]

[35] i *After they had travelled for many weeks, there came a moonlit night when the air was still and cool.*

ii *Between the two candidates there exists a great deal of antipathy, the result of months of negative campaigning.*

iii *There remain only two further issues to discuss.*

iv *There seems little doubt that the fire was started deliberately.*

[36] *appear arise arrive develop emerge enter*

*escape follow grow lie live loom*

*occur persist sit spring up sprout stand*

[37] i *President Clinton appeared at the podium accompanied by three senators and Margaret Thatcher.*

ii a. *Behind him there stood*/*was a bodyguard.*

b. #*Behind him there stood*/*were the senators.*

c. *Behind him there stood*/#*was the Vice President.*

[38] i *But remember, there still exists that first problem I mentioned.*

ii *Through the discussion there ran the usual thread of veiled hostility.*

iii *At first they could see nothing but the road and the trees.* [*But then, as they rounded the bend in the road, there came into view the grocery store, the barbershop, and the little ramshackle ice cream parlour.*]

iv *It's clear that the school needs a significant amount of work on its electrical and plumbing systems, as well as new textbooks and computers.* [*There remains the sticky issue of how this will all be financed in a district peopled with struggling taxpayers.*]

v %*I opened the door,* [*and in front of me there stood this enormous chest of drawers*]*.*

[1] basic version version with extraposition

i a. *That he hasn't phoned worries me.* b. *It worries me that he hasn't phoned.*

ii a. *Why she puts up with him is unclear.* b. *It is unclear why she puts up with him.*

iii a. *To resist would be pointless.* b. *It would be pointless to resist.*

[2] i a. A: *Jeffrey didn't turn in his term paper until a week after the deadline.*

B: *It's a miracle that he did it at all*.

b. A: *Jeffrey didn't turn in his term paper until a week after the deadline.*

B: *That he did it at all is a miracle.*

ii a. *It is amazing that the real problems surrounding NATO's planned bombing raid on Serbia were never addressed during the marathon peace talks now underway in France.*

b. #*That the real problems surrounding NATO's planned bombing raid on Serbia were never addressed during the marathon peace talks now underway in France is amazing.*

[3] i *That the skin survives these daily torments is a remarkable tribute to its toughness.*

ii [*That Pierce Brosnan is the best 007 since Connery is beyond doubt,*] *and for all its anachronisms this witty, occasionally thrilling 1995 effort (efficiently directed by `Edge of Darkness's' Martin Campbell) served to reinvigorate what had long seemed to be an exhausted franchise.*

iii *His act takes on lunatic proportions as he challenges female audience members to wrestling matches, falling in love with one while grappling it out on the canvas.* [*How he and feminist Lynne Marguiles (Courtney Love) became life partners is anyone's guess.*]

[4] *But we must never forget, most of the appropriate heroes and their legends were created overnight, to answer immediate needs.* ... *Most of the legends that are created to fan the fires of patriotism are essentially propagandistic and are not folk legends at all.* ... *Naturally, such scholarly facts are of little concern to the man trying to make money or fan patriotism by means of folklore.* [*That much of what he calls folklore is the result of beliefs carefully sown among the people with the conscious aim of producing a desired mass emotional reaction to a particular situation or set of situations is irrelevant.*]

[5] a. #*That that he was angry was so* b. *It embarrassed her that it was so*

*obvious embarrassed her. obvious that he was angry.*

[6] i a. *To pay now would be better.* b. *It would be better to pay now.*

ii a. \**Would to pay now be better?* b. *Would it be better to pay now?*

[7] a. \**What a fuss some people make is* b. *It is incredible what a fuss some*

*incredible. people make.*

[8] i a. *How she escaped is the question* b. \**It's the question we ought to be*

*we ought to be addressing. addressing how she escaped.*

ii a. *That she survived at all shows that* b. \**It shows that she must have been very*

*she must have been very fit.* *fit that she survived at all.*

[9] i a. \**That he was a CIA agent turned out.* b. *It turned out that he was a CIA agent.*

ii a. \**To notify her family fell to me.* b. *It fell to me to notify her family.*

iii a. \**To appoint an auditor was decided.* b. *It was decided to appoint an auditor.*

[10] i *appear be chance come about fall out*

*happen seem strike transpire turn out*

ii *decide* p *fall hope* p *intend* p *remain*

[11] i a. *Complaining would be no use.* b. *It would be no use complaining.*

ii a. *Getting Ed to agree to our proposal* b. *It will be no problem whatsoever*

*will be no problem whatsoever. getting Ed to agree to our proposal.*

[12] i *It was stupid to tell my parents* / ?*telling my parents.*

ii *It would make things worse to call in the police* / ?*calling in the police.*

[13] i *It's extraordinary the amount of beer he puts away.*

ii *It impressed me the way she disarmed him.*

iii *It's incredible the things they get up to.*

[14] a. \**I find that he got away with it for* b. *I find it quite incredible that he got*

*so long quite incredible.* *away with it for so long.*

[1] i *Her parents seem pretty uncaring.* [non-dislocated version]

ii *Her parents, they seem pretty uncaring.* [left dislocation]

iii *They seem pretty uncaring, her parents.* [right dislocation]

[2] i *But his mother I really admire her.*

ii *This guy in my cognitive science class, I gave him my notes to copy.*

iii *My sister, someone threw a rock at her at the beach.*

iv *The people next door, the police have just arrested their son on a drugs charge.*

v *The other one, they don't think she'll survive.*

[3] i a. *I eat garlic and pretty soon my stomach's upset.*

b. *I gave this guy in my class my notes to copy and he never returned them.*

ii a. *Garlic, I eat it and pretty soon my stomach's upset.*

b. *This guy in my class, I gave him my notes to copy and he never returned them.*

[4] i *Her parents, I don't like them at all.* [left dislocation]

ii *Her parents I don't like \_\_ at all.* [complement preposing]

[5] *Some guys, they just show up without even calling first.*

[6] i *Her father, he didn't want to know about it.* [left dislocation]

ii *As for her father, he didn't want to know about it.* [marked topic]

[7] A: *What kind of tips do you get dancing?* B: *Well, this one guy, he gave me a diamond ring that I still wear on my right hand and tell people is from my grandmother.*

[8] *As for the concert-hall, the architect excelled herself.*

[9] *My sister and her husband were having a terrible fight, and she started to scream.* [*The landlady, she went up,*] *and she told them she was going to call the police.*

[10] i *I hate writing term papers.* [*An exam, you take it and you're done.*] *But papers seem to drag on forever.*

ii *Jane has an interesting idea for a science project. She's going to use three groups of mice.* [*One group, she'll feed them mouse food. Another, she'll feed them veggies.*]

[11] i *I really like him, your dad.*

ii *I gave him a dollar, that man back there.*

iii *I've never spoken to her before, the Vice Chancellor.*

iv *What's his name, your son?*

v *There's no doubt they're unusually bright, your kids.*

[12] i *My dad was telling my uncle about how you had said you'd solve the financial problems of your business. It took a while to explain it, because* [*he didn't really understand what you planned to do, my uncle*]*.*

ii *I get back strain from carrying this heavy backpack, especially when I have to take home my huge science book and all of my lit folders.* [*It's ridiculously heavy, my science book*]*, and it's really not good for me to be hauling it back and forth all the time.*

[13] i *Frank has absolutely no social skills, and the way he dresses is an embarrassment.* [*He's a mess, that guy.*]

ii *Have you read this biography of Lincoln? I just started reading it this morning, and already I'm up to chapter 5.* [*It's fascinating, this book.*] *I never knew half of this stuff before.*

[14] i *I had to take my car in to the shop again yesterday.* [*It's really in bad shape, that car.*]

ii *I just saw `Titanic' for the eighth time.* [*He's so cute, that Leonardo DiCaprio!*]

iii *Dad took your old desk out to the curb to be taken out with the trash, but forgot that I had been keeping all my important papers in there. Luckily Diana checked the drawers and thought that the papers looked important, so she took them out.* [*#He looked them over, our attorney.*]

[15] i *She showed a lot of foresight, that Diana.*

ii #*She had the foresight to call your lawyer, who came to get them immediately, that Diana.*

[16] i *That brother of yours, the guy's a crook.*

ii *The guy next door, the lucky bastard's just won a million in the lottery.*

[17] i *The people who earn millions and pay next to no tax, those are our targets.*

ii *Bill, John, Harry managers like them should get the boot.*

[18] i *That bastard next door, he's just won a million in the lottery.* [left dislocation]

ii *The bastard, he's taken my chair again.* ) [supplementary epithet]

iii *He's taken my chair again, the bastard.*  )

[19] i *It annoyed us both, having to do the calculations by hand.* [right dislocation]

ii *It annoyed us both that we had to do the calculations by hand.* [extraposition]

[20] i #*It's really interesting, a book I'm reading.*

ii *It now seems likely that there'll be another price increase in the next few weeks.*

[1] i *I bought a red wool sweater.* [non-cleft]

ii *It was a red wool sweater that I bought.* [*it*-cleft]

iii *What I bought was a red wool sweater.* [basic pseudo-cleft]

iv *A red wool sweater was what I bought.* [reversed pseudo-cleft]

`Cleft' is a process term: the idea behind it is that a cleft clause is formed by dividing a more elementary clause into two parts. In [1], for example, [iiiv] can be thought of as being formed from [i] by dividing it into the two parts *a red wool sweater* and *I bought*. One of the two parts, here *a red wool sweater*, is **foregrounded**, and the other, *I bought*, **backgrounded**. Syntactically, the foregrounded element is made a complement of the verb *be* in its specifying sense an internal complement in the *it*-cleft and basic pseudo-cleft, a subject in the reversed pseudo-cleft.[[3]](#footnote-3) The backgrounded component, by contrast, is subordinated by being placed in a relative construction.

[2] i *The wording of the question confused me.* [non-cleft]

ii *It was the wording of the question that confused me.* [*it*-cleft]

iii *What confused me was the wording of the question.* [basic pseudo-cleft]

iv *The wording of the question was what confused me.* [reversed pseudo-cleft]

[3] i a. *It was Tom that Sue married.* b. *It wasn't Tom that Sue married.*

ii a. *Sue married Tom.* b. *Sue didn't marry Tom.*

[4] i a. *It was Sue who wrote the foreword.* b. *It wasn't Sue who wrote the foreword.*

ii a. *Sue wrote the foreword.* b. *Sue didn't write the foreword.*

[5] a. *I love you.* b. *It's you I love.*

[6] i *It is only on Tuesdays that they come to Baltimore.*

ii *It is not only you who will benefit from this decision.*

[7] i A: *I hear they sacked the secretary.* B: *No,* *it's the director who was sacked.*

ii A: *Who's that talking to the police?* B. *It's the director who was sacked.*

[8] i *It is a long lane that has no turning.*

ii *It is a foolhardy man, surely, who believes that the contrast had nothing to do with the expression of the tradition through, not only the Monarchy as an institution, but also the personal characters and examples set by George V and George VI.*

[9] A: *Who finished off the biscuits?* B: *I don't know; it certainly wasn't me.*

[10] non-cleft version cleft version

i a. *She wants a VW.* b. *It's a VW she wants.*

ii a. *She said she wants a VW.* b. *It's a VW she said she wants.*

iii a. *He thinks she said she wants a VW.* b. *It's a VW he thinks she said she wants.*

[11] i *It's the president* [*I'm referring to \_\_*]*.* [complement of a preposition]

ii *It was only last year* [*that he got his tenure \_\_*]*.* [adjunct]

iii *They made me secretary, but it wasn't secretary* [*I'd wanted to be \_\_*]*.* [PC]

iv *It's you* [*whose head will roll*]*.* [subject-determiner in NP]

[12] i *It was with considerable misgivings that she accepted the position.*

ii *It's because you stood up for yourself that you were sacked.*

iii *It's downstairs they want to play.*

[13] i #*It's that he did it deliberately that I'm inclined to think.*

ii #*It's why no one told us that I'm wondering.*

[14] i *It's that he's so self-satisfied that I find offputting.*

ii *It's not whether you win or lose that matters, but how you play the game.*

[15] i *It's certainly not to make life easier for us that they are changing the rules.*

ii *It was listening to Jill's story that made me realise how lucky we have been.*

[16] i *It was only gradually that I came to realise how much I was being exploited.*

ii *She learns sex is something sordid,* [*and when she experiences it for the first time herself it is incoherently, clumsily, but half shyly and half inquisitively*]*.*

iii *It isn't often they're as late as this.*

[17] i *It's not lonely he made me feel it's angry.*

ii *It wasn't green I told you to paint it.*

[18] i *It seems to be the switch that is defective.* [raised subject]

ii *I believe it to be her father who was primarily responsible.* [raised object]

iii \**I consider it you who are to blame.* [object of complex-transitive]

[19] a. *It was Kim who didn't complain.* b. *It wasn't Kim who complained.*

[20] a. *It is you she likes.* b. *It was you she liked.*

[21] A: *Was it Sue who polished off the cookies?* B: *No,* [*Pat it was who ate them*]*.*

[22] a. *Is it Kim making all that noise?* b. %*It is you to serve.*

[23] i *Those are my biscuits you're eating.*

ii *This is a serious problem we have here.*

iii *This is Jill speaking.*

[24] i *What I need is a long cool drink.* [basic pseudo-cleft]

ii *A long cool drink is what I need.* [reversed pseudo-cleft]

[25] i *What's going to happen next is a mystery.*

ii *What we can do to stop them is the question we ought to be addressing.*

iii *What they did was a disgrace.*

iv *Her performance was what I'd call extremely competent.*

v *The easiest such object to analyse is what we shall call a `rigid body'.*

[26] i *What I meant was that you don't have to come if you don't want to.*

ii *What puzzles me is why they didn't accept the offer in the first place.*

[27] i *What would be better would be to try and find a compromise solution.*

ii *What you must do is* (*to*) *apply for special leave.*

iii *What annoys me is having to fill in all these forms.*

iv *What he's doing is simply repeating what his wife said.*

[28] i *What her father is, if you want my view, is arrogant, dogmatic and pig-headed.*

ii *Insensitive is how I'd be inclined to describe him.*

[29] i *Up in the mountains is where I'd like to live.*

ii *In the morning is when I do my best work.*

[30] \**Who achieved the best result was Angela.*

[31] i *What is unique about milk is its richness in minerals and vitamins.*

ii *What I like about it is that it is so compact.*

iii *What went wrong was that the timer malfunctioned.*

iv *What I object to is that they won't allow a secret ballot.*

v *What they want apparently is that we should meet only twice a year.*

[32] i a. *What impressed me was her wit.* b. *The thing that impressed me was her wit.*

ii a. *What I need is a little peace.* b. *All I need is a little peace.*

iii a. \**Who deserves the credit is Jill.* b. *The one who deserves the credit is Jill.*

[33] i A: *Did you turn the air-conditioning off?* B: *No, it was Kim.*

ii *Inexperienced dancers often have difficulty in ending the Natural Turn in the correct alignment ... It is usually the man who is at fault.*

iii *John only did the illustrations for the book.* *It was Mary who wrote the story.*

[34] i *It was 50 years ago that the first real computer was built in Philadelphia.*

ii *It is with great pleasure that I now declare this Exhibition open.*

iii *The Indians were helpful in many ways. It was they who taught the settlers how to plant and harvest crops successfully in the New World.*

[35] i *It can't have been Jill who leaked the news to the press.*

ii *It was Jill who designed this house too.*

[36] i A: *You cheated me.* B: *On the contrary, it was you who cheated me.*

ii *It's jill's husband they've charged.*

iii *It was a very troubled wife that greeted Harry on his return that night.*

[37] i A: *You said you'd be home early.* B: *No, what I said was that I'd come home as soon as I could.*

ii *Why you would want to refinance is perfectly clear. What I can't understand is how you were able to refinance with such a lousy credit rating.*

iii *What I want to do in this lecture is to place Racine's work in a historical context.*

[38] i a. *Sue is planning to buy a Camry, but it's a Lexus that I want.*

b. *Sue is planning to buy a Camry, but what I want is a Lexus.*

ii a. A: *You're a history teacher, aren't you?* B. *No, it's economics that I teach.*

b. A: *You're a history teacher, aren't you?* B. *No, what I teach is economics.*

[39] i a. *That was hard work. What I need now is a long cool drink.*

b. *That was hard work.* #*It's a long cool drink that I need now.*

ii a. *What I want to discuss in this lecture is the historical context of Racine's work.*

b. #*It is the historical context of Racine's work that I want to discuss in this lecture.*

iii a. #*What my name is, ladies and gentlemen, is Kim Aldermaston.*

b. #*It is Kim Aldermaston, ladies and gentlemen, that my name is.*

[40] i *What is it you teach?*

ii *It is usual for a mare who has produced one winning jumper to produce others, even if not of the same standard, and generally in steeple-chasers it is the influence of the mare that predominates.*

[1] i *Oswald assassinated Kennedy.* [active]

ii *Kennedy was assassinated by Oswald.* [passive]

[2] i *Most members of the cabinet hated the premier.* [active]

ii *The premier was hated by most members of the cabinet.* [passive]

[3] i *Pat stole my surfboard.* [active]

ii *My surfboard was stolen by Pat.* [passive]

[4] i The subject of the active (*Pat*) appears in the passive as the complement of the preposition *by*.

ii The object of the active (*my surfboard*) appears as the subject of the passive.

iii The verb of the active appears in the passive in the past participle form (*stolen*).

iv The passive contains an extra verb, the auxiliary *be*.

[5] long passives short passives

i a. *My surfboard was stolen by Pat.* b. *My surfboard was stolen.*

ii a. *His plan was rejected by the board.* b. *His plan was rejected*.

[6] active passive

i a. *My aunt gave Ed a pair of shoes.* b. *Ed was given a pair of shoes by my aunt.*

ii a. *Everyone refers to her paper.* b. *Her paper is referred to by everyone.*

[7] i [*Considered by many overqualified for the post*]*, she withdrew her application.*

ii [*Now fallen on hard times,*] *he looked a good deal older.*

[8] *This draft needs checking carefully by the editor.*

[9] i a. *Pat was examining the contract.* b. *The contract was being examined by Pat.*

ii a. *Jill writes the reports.* b. *The reports are written by Jill.*

[10] i *Kim was mauled by our neighbour's dog.* [*be*-passive]

ii *Kim got mauled by our neighbour's dog.* [*get*-passive]

iii *He saw Kim mauled by our neighbour's dog.* ) [bare passive]

iv *The guy mauled by our neighbour's dog is in intensive care.* )

[11] i *All things considered, we're lucky not to have been sued for a lot more.* ) [short]

ii *People really are inconsiderate present company excepted.* )

iii *My house wrecked by a tornado is something I don't ever want to see.* ) [long]

iv *Their vehicle immobilised by the mud, they had to escape on foot.* )

[12] i a. *The best solution is* [*for Dr Jones* b. *The best solution is* [*for your son*

*to examine your son*]*. to be examined by Dr Jones*]*.*

ii a. *The best solution is* [ *\_\_ to*  b. *The best solution is* [ *\_\_ to be*

*examine your son*]*. examined by Dr Jones*]*.*

[13] i a. *Kim seems to intimidate Pat.* b. *Pat seems to be intimidated by Kim.*

ii a. *Jill may chair the meeting.* b. *The meeting may be chaired by Jill.*

[14] *The vase was broken.* [*be*-passive or complex-intransitive]

[15] a. *The hail damaged the car.* b. *The car was damaged by the hail.*

[16] i a. *A strange adventure befell him.* b. \**He was befallen by a strange adventure.*

ii a. *He failed her.* b. \**She was failed by him.*

[17] *Do you think* [*this behaviour becomes you*]*? This resort boasts the best beaches on the east coast. This bottle contains the milk you need for your breakfast. A packet of cigarettes costs around seven dollars. Three squared equals nine. These shoes fit me perfectly. Jill has the best qualifications. This auditorium holds about a hundred people. Most people lack the energy that she has. I don't think* [*they mind your criticism*]*. The enemy numbered over 5,000. They're talking politics again. This suitcase weighs exactly that amount.*

[18] i a. *They want John to resign.* b. \**John is wanted to resign.*

ii a. *People here like beer lukewarm.* b. \**Beer is liked lukewarm.*

[19] i a. *My father gave me this watch.* b. *I was given this watch by my father.*

ii a. *My father gave me this watch.* b. %*This watch was given me by my father.*

[20] i a. *My mother approved of the plan.* b. *The plan was approved of by my mother.*

ii a. *The committee didn't face up to* b. *These problems weren't faced up to by*

*these problems. the committee.*

iii a. *The organisers seem to have lost* b. *The main goal seems to have been lost*

*sight of the main goal. sight of.*

iv a. *Someone has slept in this bed.* b. *This bed has been slept in.*

[21] i a. *A First World War uniform was easily come by.*

b. *She was a fine manager, one* [*who was looked up to by them all*]*.*

ii a. #*We need to ask the march organisers* [*whether our shop is going to be come by*]*.*

b. #*The top of the mountain was looked up to as the volcano erupted.*

[22] i \**He was taken after by his son.* [verb + preposition]

ii \**Justice is being cried out for.* [verb + preposition + preposition]

iii \**She had been curried favour with.* [verb + NP + preposition]

[23] i a. *Her son suggested that we should*  b. *That we should call the police was*

*call the police. suggested by her son.*

ii a. *They haven't yet determined whether* b. *Whether this is feasible hasn't yet been*

*this is feasible. determined.*

iii a. *You can't avoid paying taxes.* b. *Paying taxes can't be avoided.*

[24] i *My solicitor assured me that we would win the case.*

ii *I was assured by my solicitor that we would win the case.*

iii \**That we would win the case was assured me by my solicitor.*

[25] i *It was suggested by her son that we should call the police.*

ii *It hasn't yet been determined whether this is feasible.*

[26] i *We complained that there was no hot water.*

ii *They rejoiced that the war was finally over.*

iii *He snarled that he would never agree to such terms.*

[27] i *It was charged that they had used the funds for private purposes.*

ii *It was objected that the costs would be excessive.*

[28] i *Nobody cares*/*minds what happens to us.*

ii *They are wondering whether they made the right decision.*

iii *No one had thought what the consequences would be.*

[29] i *Taking out a mortgage wasn't considered*/*recommended*/*suggested.*

ii \**Painting the house was begun*/*kept*/*hated*/*intended*/*remembered by Sam.*

[30] i a. *Not to go would be considered rude.* b. *It would be considered rude not to go.*

ii a. \**To accept the offer was decided.* b. *It was decided to accept the offer.*

iii a. \**To receive more help was expected.* b. \**It was expected to receive more help.*

[31] i *Pat is reputed to be very rich.*

ii *It is rumoured that there will be an election before the end of the year.*

iii *Kim is said to be a manic depressive.*

[32] i *The kitchen window was broken by the thieves.* [verbal: *be*-passive]

ii *They were very worried.* [adjectival: complex-intransitive]

iii *They were married.* [ambiguous]

[33] adjective verb

i a. *It was* [*very enjoyable*]*.* b. \**We* [*very enjoyed it*]*.*

ii a. *They are* [*too quarrelsome*]*.* b. \**They* [*quarrel too*]*.*

[34] adjective verb

i a. *They were unrepentant.* b. \**They unrepented.*

ii a. *It was unmemorable.* b. \**We unremembered it.*

[35] i *The letter was still unanswered.*

ii *The cat was unnoticed by the guests for several minutes.*

[36] i *They were injured when the platform they were standing on collapsed.* [verbal]

ii *She is injured and will have to miss the next two matches.* [adjectival]

[37] dynamic stative

i a. *Everyone criticised her.* b. *Everyone loves her.*

ii a. *She was criticised by everyone.* b. *She is loved by everyone.*

[38] i *Kim was worried by the prospect of redundancy.*

ii *The village was surrounded by troops from the First Battalion.*

[39] i *It was magnetised.* [verbal or adjectival]

ii *It became magnetised.* [adjectival]

[40] i *Kim was regarded as* / *considered a liability.* [predicative complement]

ii *Max was known to be an alcoholic.* [infinitival complement]

[41] i *The window was broken.* [ambiguous: verbal or adjectival]

ii *The window was broken by vandals.* [unambiguously verbal]

[42] i a. *She was pleased at these results.* b. *She was pleased by these results.*

ii a. *He is known to the police.* b. *The answer was known by everyone.*

[43] i *The vehicle had to go unrepaired for several months.*

ii *Nearly half the money was unaccounted for.*

iii *He had remained unseen throughout the meeting.*

[44] *unaffected unaided unattended unbalanced unchanged undaunted*

*undetected undeterred unfettered unharmed unheeded unhindered*

*unimpeded unintended unmoved unopposed unprotected unseen*

*unspoiled unsupported unswayed untouched untroubled unwanted*

[45] *She's bound to win. We're engaged* (*to be married*)*. His days are numbered. Are you related? I'm supposed to pay for it. He isn't used to hard work.*

[46] i *They got killed by the highjackers.*  [verbal: *get*-passive]

ii *They got very frightened.* [adjectival: complex-intransitive]

iii *They got frightened.* [ambiguous]

[47] i *The window was broken.* [ambiguous: verbal or adjectival]

ii *The window got broken.* [unambiguous: verbal only]

[48] i *They are getting married at the week-end.* [adjectival]

ii *They are hoping to get married by the bishop.* [verbal]

[49] i *Get*-passives tend to be avoided in formal style.

ii *Get*-passives are found only with dynamic verbs.

iii *Get*-passives are more conducive to an agentive interpretation of the subject.

iv *Get*-passives are characteristically used in clauses involving adversity or benefit.

[50] i *It was*/#*got believed that the letter was a forgery.*

ii *Obviously, the manager is*/#*gets feared by most of the staff.*

[51] i *She managed to get transferred to the finance department.*

ii *Go and get checked out at the medical centre.*

iii *Getting elected president of the student union took a lot of time and effort.*

iv *He did a silly thing: he got caught downloading pornography on the office computer.*

[52] i a. *Kim got sacked.* b. *Kim got promoted.*

ii a. *My watch got stolen.* b. *My letter got published.*

[53] i *Kim was*/\**got seen to leave the laboratory with Dr Smith.*

ii *He saw Kim get*/\**be mauled by my brothers dog.*

[54] a. *I get my hair cut once a month.* b. *I got myself exempted from guard duties.*

[55] i *The hospital board reprimanded both doctors.* [active]

ii *Both doctors were reprimanded by the hospital board.* [*be*-passive]

iii *Both doctors got reprimanded by the hospital board.* [*get*-passive]

[56] i *The mayor's term of office expires next month.* [*She will be succeeded by George Hendricks.*]

ii *George Hendricks will take office next month.* [#*The current mayor, Angela Cook, will be succeeded by him.*]

[57] i *A press conference will be held by the President at 3 p.m. today.*

ii #*A press conference will be held by me at 3 p.m. today.*

[58] i *John and Mary have agreed to help with the salads. We'll serve a pasta salad and a traditional bowl of tossed greens.* [*The pasta salad will be made by John,*] *and Mary will bring the greens.*

ii *Before the parade, a flag ceremony will be led by a troop of Girl Scouts.*

[59] i a. *Her doctor will be with her.* b. *With her will be her doctor.*

ii a. *Her doctor prescribed the pills.* b. *The pills were prescribed by her doctor.*

[60] *An important new bill was introduced by Senator Jill Johansen at the State Capitol yesterday.*

[61] i *Which doctor were her pills prescribed by?* [open interrogative]

ii *By none of them was the question answered satisfactorily.* [preposing]

[62] i *I was going to show you my new car* [*but yesterday it was stolen*]*.* [old]

ii *Did you hear the news?* [*A jewelry store downtown was robbed last night*]*.* [new]

[63] i *The house was built in 1924.*

ii *Very little is known about the cause of the disease.*

iii *Application forms can be obtained from the Departmental Secretary.*

iv *Mom! The vase got broken!*

v *The delay in attending to this matter is regretted.*

vi *The solution was drained under a hydrogen atmosphere, the deposits were washed with water and methanol and dried. A film of formvar was then cast on the deposit. ...*

[64] i *Our solar system was formed billions of years ago.*

ii *The boat capsized and over twenty passengers were drowned.*

iii *In view of these losses Smithson is reluctantly closing his Fifth Avenue shop. He admits he feels as if his dream has been shattered.*

iv *Life wasn't meant to be easy.*

[65] i a. *This bed was slept in by George Washington.*

b. *The valley could be marched through in less than two hours.*

c. *My new hat has been sat on.*

ii a.  #*The river was slept beside.*

b.  #*The village hall could be met in.*

c.  #*The roof has been sat on all day.*

1. We have added the adjunct *however* in [18] to ensure that *in your argument* is construed as a complement of *be*, not a modifier of *flaw*. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Note that *all kinds of insurance policies* is not interpreted literally as every kind of policy, but rather something like a lot of different kinds of policy. It is, as it were, `false universal quantification', comparable to the false definite use of *this* in [32]. Similarly with *every* (but not *each*). In a sentence like *There's every reason to believe this winter will be especially mild*, the NP *every reason* means something like good reason. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. For the distinction between the specifying and ascriptive senses of *be*, see Ch. 4, 5.5. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)