

Hi. Our grand ideas of making a handout turned out to be much bigger than our actual time to make a handout out.

Here are some ramblings and other things we went through but didn't quite want to get rid of while writting the original poster:

## 1 Upshot; What are epithets? (revisited)

So, to explain this distribution, we have two options to define epithets. Either they are...

- ★ NP/DPs accompanied by an obligatory determiner
- ★ carriers of evaluative meaning

or they

- ★ contain pronouns ubnderlyingly, and

[1, 4, 5, 6]

- (1) **John**<sub>1</sub> ran over a man (who was) trying to give **the idiot**<sub>1</sub> directions.  
[3]:12

What exactly are epithets? In truth, our analysis along with much of the literature focuses on basically exactly *the fool/bastard/idiot* as the prototypical forms. However, our given definition covers a much broader range of usages. Further study should give a strong argument for why we choose this as the definition. Moreover, a variety of examples with varying head determiners and sematic positivity/negativity, genericity, and definiteness along with otherwise exploring what can and cannot be epithets. Finally, comparison from epithets in literary studies: "The epithets are decorative insofar as they are neither essential to the immediate context nor modeled especially for it. Among other things, they are extremely helpful to fill out a half-verse." [2]

## 2 Epithets are not pronouns

- (2) o = grammatical \* = ungrammatical ? = odd x = no data (e.g. failed base case) *Donkey Anaphora*: — I don't have a split judgement here. Do we keep?
  - a. Every teacher who has a terrible student<sub>1</sub> fails the idiot<sub>1</sub>. ooooo
  - b. Every teacher who has a terrible student<sub>1</sub> fails him<sub>1</sub>. ooooo
- (3) 1 = only meaning 1 2 = only meaning 2 o = both meanings \* = neither meanings *Paycheck Anaphora*:
  - a. The man who sent his son to war was wiser than the man who sent him to college.  
1oo11

- b. # The man who sent his son to war was wiser than the man who sent the idiot to college.

10011

- c. i. Meaning 1: two different men send their own sons to different places  
ii. Meaning 2: two different men send the same son to different places maybe gay couple

1. **Topicalization:**

- a. Himself<sub>1</sub>, John<sub>1</sub> tripped over yesterday.  
\*<sub>X</sub>\*<sub>XX</sub>  
b. Him<sub>1</sub>, John<sub>1</sub> tripped over yesterday.  
\*<sub>X</sub>\*<sub>XX</sub>  
c. The idiot<sub>1</sub>, John<sub>1</sub> tripped over yesterday.  
0X0XX

2. **Relative Clause:**

- a. It was himself<sub>1</sub> that John<sub>1</sub> tripped over yesterday.  
000?0  
b. It was him<sub>1</sub> that John<sub>1</sub> tripped over yesterday.  
\*\*\*<sub>0</sub>\*  
c. It was the idiot<sub>1</sub> that John<sub>1</sub> tripped over yesterday.  
\*\*\*<sub>0</sub>\*

3. **Wh-Questions:**

- a. John<sub>1</sub> showed Mary a terrible picture of the idiot<sub>1</sub>.  
o?o\*o  
b. Which terrible picture of himself<sub>1</sub> did John<sub>1</sub> show Mary.  
0X000  
c. ? Which terrible picture of him<sub>1</sub> did John<sub>1</sub> show Mary.  
\*<sub>X00</sub>\*  
d. ? Which terrible picture of the idiot<sub>1</sub> did John<sub>1</sub> show Mary.  
?<sub>X</sub>?\*o  
e. ? Which terrible picture of John<sub>1</sub> did he<sub>1</sub> show Mary.  
\*<sub>X</sub>\*<sub>0</sub>\*  
f. Which terrible picture of John<sub>1</sub> did the idiot<sub>1</sub> show Mary.  
\*<sub>X</sub>\*\*<sub>0</sub>  
g. \* Who<sub>1</sub> did he<sub>1</sub> trip over?  
0X000  
h. Who<sub>1</sub> did the idiot<sub>1</sub> trip over?  
0X000

### 3 Epithets can be Bound Variable Anaphora

TODO: 'all the idiots'; quantificationally introduced nouns are generally not considered anaphoric; are these even evaluative? Each student got help from John. Each idiot subsequently ignored him. The teacher graded the squib that each idiot wrote. Context A: Each student wrote their own terrible squib  
 \*Context B: Each student collectively wrote a terrible group squib The teacher graded each squib that some idiot wrote. Context A: A single student writes terrible squibs Context B: each terrible squib is written by a different student

As seen below, epithets can act as bound variables in quantificational and conjoined phrases:

- (4)  $\forall$ : Each driver<sub>1</sub> ran over the man who was trying to give the idiot<sub>1</sub> directions.  
 (Each driver)( $\lambda x$ . x ran over the man who was trying to give x directions)
- (5) **and**: Context: John and Tom are bad students. A different teacher helped each of them.  
 John<sub>1</sub> hit the teacher who helped the idiot<sub>1</sub> and Tom<sub>2</sub> did too.  
 (John)( $\lambda x$ . x hit the teacher who helped x) AND (Tom)( $\lambda x$ . x hit the teacher who helped x) TODO: quantificational introduction and information structure
- (6) After the students<sub>1</sub> got help from John, the idiots<sub>1</sub> subsequently ignored him.
- (7) After the students<sub>1</sub> got help from John, all the students<sub>1</sub>/idiots<sub>1</sub> ignored him on the test.
- (8) After John helped the students, they/all the idiots/all the students ignored him.