

LIN 311 Syntax Recitation

May 3, 2019

Passives: a movement analysis

- (1) They made some headway on a solution.
- (2) Some headway was made on a solution.

Quantifier stranding: VP internal subject hypothesis

- (1) The men have all drunk bubble tea.

Short movement or long-distance movement?

Ambiguous or not??

(1) When did he say [that they left for California?]

Short movement or long-distance movement?

How account for the ungrammaticality of this sentence?

* Who he wonders where went?

Questions + Binding

Think about the co-indexing between *himself* and *John/Bill*

- (1) [Which picture of **himself**] does **Bill** think that **John** bought.
- (2) **Bill** thinks that **John** bought [a beautiful picture of **himself**].

Irish: overt [+Q] complementizer

Cé a^L bhí ____ sa seomra?
who that_{WH} was in.the room
“Who was in the room?”

Scottish Gaelic: overt [+Q] complementizer

Cò a dh'ith na breacagan fheoil?
who that_{WH} ate the.PL pancakes meat
“Who ate the beef waffles?”

Questions?

something special about English *wh*-questions

why we don't insert do-support for subject wh-questions in English?

(1) Mary ate fried chicken.

(2) Who ate fried chicken?

(3) * Who **did** eat fried chicken?

Questions?

something special about English *wh*-questions

Why we can not have wh-word adjacent to the over complementizer 'that'?

(4) *Who that John left?

(5) Who did John left?

(6) *What did John say that ____ was baked?

(7) What did John say __ was baked?