

## Ling 102 Section

September 21

Section  
Wednesdays 7:15–8:00  
Boylston 303

Office Hours  
Tuesdays 3:00–4:00  
2 Arrow St Room 423

## Constituency Tests

Constituency tests only can apply to constituents. But they may have further restrictions: some kinds of syntactic operations can only apply to certain categories (NP vs PP vs maximal VP vs minimal VP, etc.) or to certain positions in a sentence (only apply to objects, only apply to subjects, etc.).

- (1) a. Movement: only constituents can undergo movement as a unit.
  - (i) Passivization: Passivize a verb and move the object to subject position.
  - (ii) Wh-movement: Turn part of a constituent into a wh-item and move the constituent to the left of the clause.
  - (iii) Topicalization: Move some constituent to the left of the clause.
  - (iv) Clefting: It was X that [Y  $t_X$ ], where X is a constituent
  - (v) Pseudo-clefting: What [Y  $t_X$ ] is X, where X is a constituent
  - (vi) Verb preposing
- b. Coordination: only constituents can undergo coordination (without right node raising)
- c. Pro-Forms: Only constituents can be substituted with pro-forms (single words which represent some/any member(s) of a set of a given category)
- d. Ellipsis: Only constituents can undergo ellipsis.

Which syntactic operations can we apply to the following sentence, and where?

- (2) The man from Crete fed birds outside John's father's window.

Passivization

Wh-movement

Topicalization

Clefting

Pseudo-clefting

Verb preposing

Coordination

Pro-Forms

Ellipsis