

Ling 290A: Relative clauses

Fall 2016

Instructor: Peter Jenks jenks@berkeley.edu
Meetings: Tue/Thu 3:30–4:59p 1303 Dwinelle
Office hours: Mon 2–3p, Thu 1–2p 1217 Dwinelle

Description

This seminar explores the syntax and semantics of relative clauses in English and across languages. One focus will be understanding the arguments for the different analyses of relative clauses. In the service of understanding these diagnostics we will examine the empirical basis for the distinction between A and A-bar movement. We will also examine how relative clauses differ across languages.

Requirements

Reading There are three types of readings in this class. 1. Required readings, which everyone will do; 2. Assigned readings (**in bold**), which one of you will present. I may drop some of these or ‘demote’ them to optional if they are not selected. 3. Background readings, (B, in parentheses) which are encouraged but optional.

Class discussion and attendance If you don’t read, it’s usually obvious during the class discussion. Regular attendance and active engagement in class discussion will help you get the most from the course.

Presentations You will each be presenting at least one paper during the semester. You should come to class with a handout summarizing the main points of the paper with questions for discussion. You should plan to spend at least a full class discussing the paper, and more time will be made if the discussion pushes the presentation past a single class.

Final Paper You will write a final paper on a topic related to relative clauses. Twentyish pages is a good goal. You will all present your final paper during the last week or two of class.

Schedule *Likely over-ambitious and subject to change. I’ve left extra time at the end to accommodate spill-over.*

Week	Dates	Topic	Readings
1	8.25	Overview of relative clauses	Bianchi 2002a,b
2	8.30, 9.1	Ā- movement	Chomsky 1977; Engdahl 1983
3	9.6, 9.8	The raising analysis	Borsley 1997; Bianchi 2000 ; (B: Kayne 1994, ch. 8; Áfarli 1994; de Vries 2002, ch. 3-4)
4	9.13, 9.15	Movement and reconstruction	Takahashi and Hulsey 2009 (B: Fox and Nissenbaum 1999, Sportiche 2006)
5	9.20, 9.22	Raising vs. matching	Bhatt 2002, Kalidova and Zyman 2015; (B: Hulsey and Sauerland 2006)
6	9.27, 9.29	Case connectivity and cyclicity	Deal 2016 (B: Pesetsky and Torrego 2001)
7	10.4, 10.6	Resumption	Sichel 2014 (B: McCloskey 2006)
8	10.11, 10.13	Free relatives, degree relatives	Grosu and Landman 1998; Ott 2011 (B: Bresnan and Grimshaw 1978)
9	10.18, 10.20	Internally headed relative clauses	Hastings 2004, ch. 2-3; (B: Basilico 1996; Cinque 2008a)
10	10.25, 10.27	Correlatives	Bhatt 2003; Cinque 2014 (B: Srivastav 1991)
11	11.1, 11.3	Nominalization and relative clauses	Toosarvandani 2014 (B: Kornfilt and Whitman 2012)

12	11.8, 11.10	Hydras	Fox and Johnson 2016 (B: Perlmutter and Ross 1970; McKinney-Bock 2013)
13	11.15, 11.17	Mandarin relatives and appositives	del Gobbo 2010; Constant 2011 (B: Cinque 2008b)
14	11.22	TBD	
15	11.29, 12.1	Final paper presentations	

References

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