

## Chapter 12, Problem 2: Classifying Adjectives

- *anxious* is a control adjective:
  - It can't take dummy *it* as a subject, even if its complement selects it:  
\*It is anxious to bother me that I'm not at Harvard.  
It bothers me that I'm not at Harvard.
  - It can't take dummy *there* as a subject, even if its complement selects it:  
\*There is/are anxious to be glitches in our homework problems.  
There are glitches in our homework problems.
  - It can't take an idiom chunk as its subject, even if the rest of the idiom is in the complement:  
\*Unfair advantage is anxious to be taken of foreigners by city hustlers.  
Unfair advantage is taken of foreigners by city hustlers.
  - Active and passive versions of the same complement do not give rise to paraphrases:  
The doctor is anxious to examine Dana.  $\neq$   
Dana is anxious to be examined by the doctor.
- *apt* is a raising adjective:
  - It can take dummy *it* as its subject, if and only if its complement selects for dummy *it*:  
It is apt to bother them that they're not at Harvard.  
\*It is apt to like ice cream.
  - It can take dummy *there* as its subject, if and only if its complement selects for dummy *there*:  
There are apt to be glitches in our homework problems.  
\*There are apt to like ice cream.
  - It can take an idiom chunk as its subject, if and only if its complement contains the rest of the idiom:  
Unfair advantage is apt to be taken of foreigners by city hustlers.  
\*Unfair advantage is apt to be expected of foreigners by city hustlers.
  - Active and passive versions of the same complement do give rise to paraphrases:  
The doctor is apt to examine Dana.  $\approx$   
Dana is apt to be examined by the doctor.
- *certain* is a raising adjective:
  - It can take dummy *it* as its subject, if and only if its complement selects for dummy *it*:  
It is certain to bother them that they're not at Harvard.  
\*It is certain to like ice cream.
  - It can take dummy *there* as its subject, if and only if its complement selects for dummy *there*:  
There are certain to be glitches in our homework problems.  
\*There are certain to like ice cream.
  - It can take an idiom chunk as its subject, if and only if its complement contains the rest of the idiom:  
Unfair advantage is certain to be taken of foreigners by city hustlers.

- \*Unfair advantage is certain to be expected of foreigners by city hustlers.
  - Active and passive versions of the same complement do give rise to paraphrases:
    - The doctor is certain to examine Dana.  $\approx$
    - Dana is certain to be examined by the doctor.
- *lucky* is a control adjective:
  - It can't take dummy *it* as a subject, even if its complement selects it:
    - \*It is lucky to bother me that I'm not at Harvard.
    - I bothers me that I'm not at Harvard.
  - It can't take dummy *there* as a subject, even if its complement selects it:
    - \*There is/are lucky to be glitches in our homework problems.
    - There are glitches in our homework problems.
  - It can't take an idiom chunk as its subject, even if the rest of the idiom is in the complement:
    - \*Unfair advantage is lucky to be taken of foreigners by city hustlers.
    - Unfair advantage is taken of foreigners by city hustlers.
  - Active and passive versions of the same complement do not give rise to paraphrases:
    - The doctor is lucky to examine Dana.  $\neq$
    - Dana is lucky to be examined by the doctor.