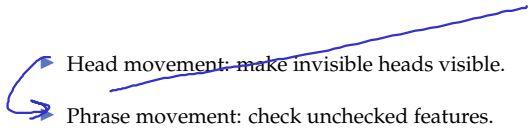# Head versus phrase movement

Based on Koeneman & Zeiljstra (2017)

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COGS 532: Theoretical Linguistics
METU, Informatics
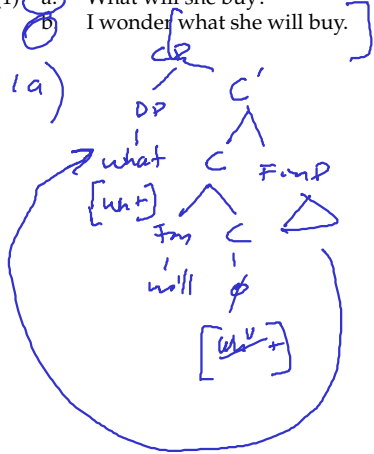
- Head movement: make invisible heads visible.
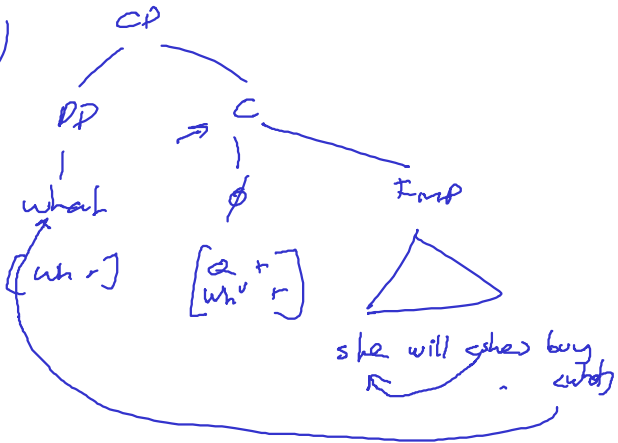- Phrase movement: check unchecked features.

(1) a. What will she buy?
     b. I wonder what she will buy.

"in-situ"

(1a)
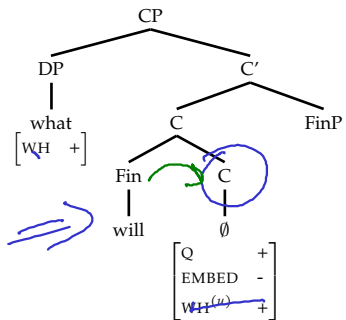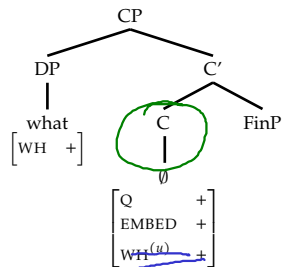
CP
  DP   C'
  | / \
  what   C   FinP
[wh+]   /\
        Fin C
         | |
       will ∅
          [wh^u +]

(1b)

CP
  DP   C
  | /| \
  what   ∅   FinP
[wh-r]   [Q +
         wh^u r]

she will she buy

What will she buy?

CP
├─ DP
│ └─ what
│ $\begin{bmatrix} \text{WH} & + \end{bmatrix}$
└─ C′
   ├─ C
   │ ├─ Fin
   │ │ └─ will
   │ └─ C
   │   └─ ∅
   │ $\begin{bmatrix} \text{Q} & + \\ \text{EMBED} & - \\ \text{WH}^{(u)} & + \end{bmatrix}$
   └─ FinP

I wonder what she will buy.

CP
├─ DP
│ └─ what
│ $\begin{bmatrix} \text{WH} & + \end{bmatrix}$
└─ C′
   ├─ C
   │ └─ ∅
   │ $\begin{bmatrix} \text{Q} & + \\ \text{EMBED} & + \\ \text{WH}^{(u)} & + \end{bmatrix}$
   └─ FinP

Aux movement for feature checking

What will she buy?

CP
├── DP
│   └── what
│   [WH +]
└── C'
    ├── C
    │   ├── Fin
    │   │   └── will
    │   │   [FINITE +]
    │   └── C
    │   └── ∅
    │   [Q +]
    │   [EMBED -]
    │   [WH (u) +]
    │   [FINITE (u) +]
    └── FinP

I wonder what she will buy.

CP
├── DP
│   └── what
│   [WH +]
└── C'
    ├── C
    │   └── ∅
    │   [Q +]
    │   [EMBED +]
    │   [WH (u) +]
    └── FinP
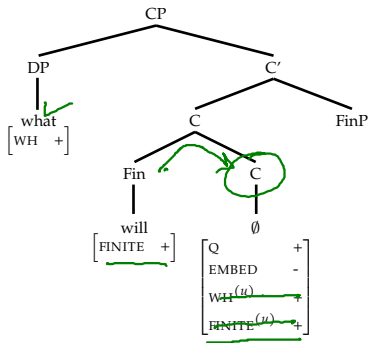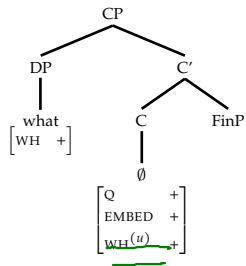
∅
→ non-embed, Fin.to^u +
↘ embed,

Movement

A constituent (a head or a phrase) remerges to a higher position to check off some uninterpretable feature that would otherwise remain unchecked.