LX 321/621 Syntax
Fall 2018

Practice Midterm
"DUE" TUE OCT 23

## 1 From trees to rules and vice versa ( 10 points; 5 points per task)

### 1.1 Tree to PS rules

Provide the PS rules that derive the following tree. Give the simplest rule system you can, avoiding redundancy. For this question, just give the lexical items with their category (no other features).


### 1.2 PS rules to tree

Provide a tree diagram for the following sentence based on the grammar below. (Assume the lexical items that would be appropriate.) You may find that the rule system allows for more than one possible structure. If so, provide the structure that best captures the meaning of the sentence. The root node of the tree should be CP.

The shop on the corner will sell tickets on Saturday.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{CP} \rightarrow \mathrm{C} \mathrm{TP} \\
& \mathrm{TP} \rightarrow \mathrm{NP} \mathrm{~T} \mathrm{VP} \\
& \mathrm{VP} \rightarrow \mathrm{VP} \mathrm{PP} \\
& \mathrm{VP} \rightarrow \mathrm{~V} \\
& \mathrm{PP} \rightarrow \mathrm{P} \mathrm{NP} \\
& \mathrm{VP} \rightarrow \mathrm{~V} \mathrm{NP} \\
& \mathrm{NP} \rightarrow \mathrm{Det} \mathrm{~N} \\
& \mathrm{NP} \rightarrow \mathrm{NP} \mathrm{PP} \\
& \hline
\end{aligned}
$$

## 2 Developing an argument

Consider these two hypotheses concerning the structure of the sentence Chris will eat the cake with a spoon.


Which of these diagrams better represents the structure of this sentence? Construct an argument based on constituency for one over the other. Use at least two tests for constituents that distinguish the two structures. Briefly explain how the tests lead you to the conclusion you reach.

## 3 Building a lexicon (5 points)

Observe the following data. For each, come up with a lexical entry for the underlined word, and explain in a few words how your lexical entry explains the data in question.
(1) a. * Rosemary hates
b. Rosemary hates clementines
(2) a. John placed the book on the table.
b. * John placed the book.
c. * John placed on the table.
d. * John placed.
e. * John placed the book the magazine on the table.
(3) a. * Bill majored Linguistics at BU.
b. Bill majored in Linguistics at BU.
c. Bill majored in Linguistics.
d. * Bill majored at BU.
(4) a. Bill seems angry.
b. * Bill seems.
c. * Bill seems the teacher.
(5) a. He did it for the sake of politeness. Note: sake here is one syllable.
b. * He did it for the sake.

It is not a liquid.
c. * He did it for the sake politeness.

