CAS LX 522 Syntax I
Fall 2009

Midterm
THURSDAY OCTOBER 15

Budget your time. 50 points total. 80 minutes. Average 1.6 points/minute.
The number of points assigned to each part is indicated by a number in brackets.

1. [8] Fill in the missing labels for the nodes in the tree below. Where a node is the maximal projection of a lexical item, indicate this with the standard "X-bar" notation (e.g., NP for the maximal projection of a noun, $v^{\prime}$ for an intermediate projection of $v$ ). The sentence is One should not sip tea noisily. The arrow is for use in question 4.

2. [6] Yes or No. In the sentence for which the structure is given in (1)...
(a) Is should not a constituent?
(b) Is sip tea noisily a constituent?
(c) Does NegP dominate sip?
(d) Is AdvP the specifier of $v P$ ?
(e) Does $v+\mathrm{V}$ dominate the NP tea?
(f) Is MP the complement of NegP?
3. [2] Circle one. The verb shown in the structure in (1) above is...

## ditransitive / transitive / unergative / unaccusative

4. [2] C-command. The arrow in the tree above points to a node. Circle every node in the tree that node c-commands.
5. [2] $\theta$-role. Name the $\theta$-role that $O n e$ has in (1).
6. Suppose we start building a structure for a sentence, and at a certain stage we wind up with a $v \mathrm{P}$ as shown (abstractly) below in (2). Note: The superscripts are just for identification purposes-they aren't there in the structure, I just need to be able to refer to the individual nodes.
(2)

(a) [2] Name the $\theta$-role that the $\mathrm{NP}^{2}$ will have.
(b) [2] Name the operation (Merge, Adjoin, Move) that connected $\mathrm{NP}^{3}$ and $\mathrm{PP}^{2}$.
(c) [2] How many $[u \mathrm{P}]$ features were there-total-in these lexical items initially?
(d) [3] Which of the following three sentences might plausibly include the $v \mathrm{P}$ in (2)?
7. Soldiers in movies shoot at people.
8. Water on mountains boils in seconds.
9. People under stress drive in circles.
10. [2] Circle one. The verb shown in the structure in (2) is...

## ditransitive / transitive / unergative / unaccusative

8. Suppose you had a sentence with the abstract structure given below in (3). I have provided two lexical items (the NP, Spiderpig, and the bare (uninflected) form of the verb, walk).
(3)

(a) [3] Draw arrows in the tree that show, when things moved, where they moved from and to.
(b) [3] Write the sentence that this would be the structure for.
(c) [2] What was the motivation to Merge T and PerfP?
(d) [2] What was the motivation to Merge $v^{\prime}$ and NP?
9. [5] Binding Theory. One question, about the sentences in (4) below. The question is this: Why does (4a) have only one of the two interpretations you might expect? The background is this: If you consider (4b), which differs from (4a) only in the subject of the lower clause, it is ambiguous-there are two different interpretations of near Bill. It is either that that book near Bill was allegedly stolen, or that the allegation of theft was itself pronounced near Bill (perhaps so he would overhear). In (4a), where he refers to Bill, one of those readings disappears. The question here is asking you to explain why only one interpretation survives. Hint: The title of this question is "Binding Theory"expect to find yourself using the word "Principle" and one of the capital letters "A," "B," or "C."
(4) a. Mary ${ }_{i}$ said that he ${ }_{j}$ stole that book near Bill ${ }_{j}$.
b. Mary ${ }_{i}$ said that $\mathrm{Ed}_{k}$ stole that book near Bill ${ }_{j}$.
10. [4] The sentence in (5) seems grammatical in English, at least to me right now. But the system developed so far in class predicts that it should not be. Explain why this cannot be constructed using the system we have so far.
(5) Patricia should be not wasting time.
