

#### PROBLEM SET #4: SYNTAX

**There are 3 parts to this assignment; part 1 is worth 20% of the overall grade, and parts 2 and 3 are each worth 40%.**

1. Following are a number of phrases; identify what type of phrase each is. Assume that I'm not playing games here, and that the phrases are the types they appear to be, absent any sort of strange context. That said, if it is impossible to tell whether a phrase is one of two types, you only need to answer with one of the possibilities.

- (a) after dinner
- (b) the red car
- (c) fugitives were running down the street
- (d) the people who saw the crime
- (e) heard the out-of-tune violins
- (f) wildebeests
- (g) that bizarre yellow toy
- (h) the dog that used to belong to the abbot I didn't know very well but who was a good friend of my parents and who played golf really well according to some people I talked to who know more about golf than I do

2. Show the syntactic structure for each of the following sentences. You may use either tree or bracket notation; please be consistent in which one you choose. Remember to show where movement processes have occurred.

- (a) I recorded Pat's voice on an audiocassette
- (b) The spy was speaking in code
- (c) The car drove through the daisies
- (d) What did you buy for me?
- (e) Did you see the monkey?
- (f) I agree that this is a detailed assignment
- (g) I know what I did last summer
- (h) Do you know what you did last summer?

3. The following sentences are ambiguous. Give pairs of syntactic structures for each of them, one structure for each meaning; make clear which structure goes with which meaning. You may use either tree or bracket notation; please be consistent in which one you choose. Remember to show where movement processes have occurred.

Pat ate the cookies on the couch

- (a) The cookies were on the couch, Pat ate them
- (b) Pat was on the couch, and ate the cookies

Pat knows more beautiful people than Chris

- (c) Pat knows people who are more attractive than those Chris knows
- (d) Pat knows more people who are attractive than Chris does

I will give Pat a ring tomorrow

- (e) Pat will receive jewelry from me
- (f) Pat will receive a telephone call from me