



Binding Theory Quiz

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Determine whether there is a binding relationship between the coindexed NPs and state which NP is the binder and which NP is bound.

- (i) John_{*i*} thinks he_{*i*} is a genius.
- (ii) John_{*i*} likes himself_{*i*} a lot.
- (iii) John_{*i*} thinks himself_{*i*} is a genius.
- (iv) John_{*i*} likes him_{*i*} a lot.
- (v) [John_{*i*}'s mother]_{*j*} thinks he_{*i*} is a genius.
- (vi) [His_{*i*} mother]_{*j*} thinks John_{*i*} is a genius.

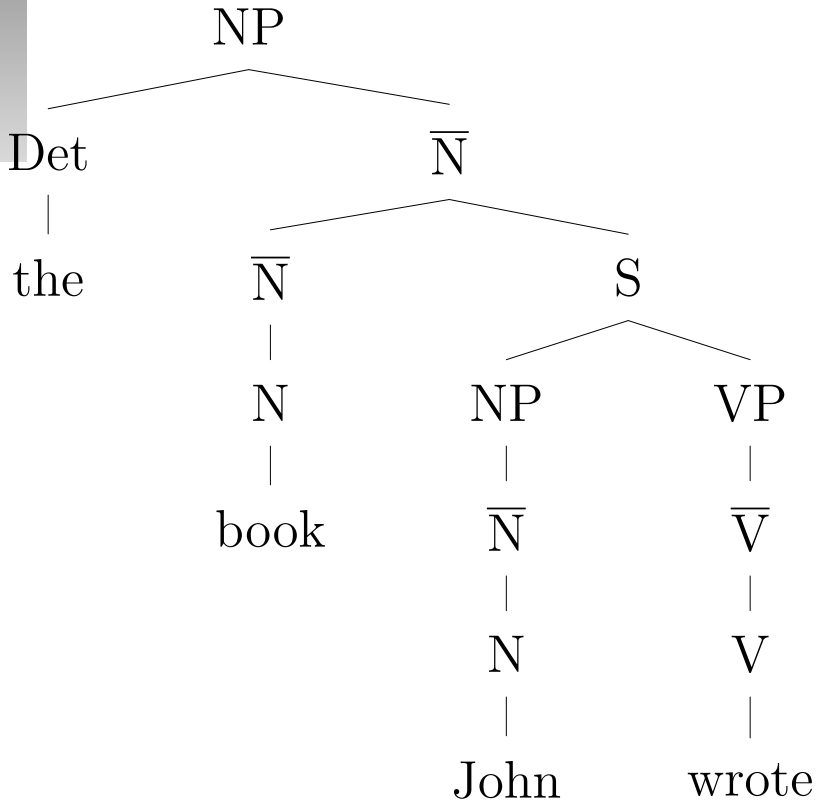
In the following questions assume the following definition of **antecedent**:

The **antecedent** of a pronoun or an anaphor is an R-expression coindexed with it.

For example, *John* is the antecedent of *he* and *himself* in:

- (i) John_{*i*} thinks he_{*i*} is a genius.
- (ii) John_{*i*} likes himself_{*i*} a lot.

Assume relative clauses are adjuncts of nouns



S: a relative clause

General directions

Answer true or false for each of the following. Grammaticality judgments for examples have been omitted because they are not relevant to answering any of the questions (and to make it clear that the answers do not **DEPEND** on the grammaticality judgments).

1. According to the binding theory, a pronoun must have an antecedent.
2. The antecedent of a pronoun in a grammatical sentence must bind it.
3. The antecedent of a pronoun in a grammatical sentence must not bind it.
4. The antecedent of an anaphor in a grammatical sentence must bind it.
5. According to the binding theory, an anaphor must have an antecedent.
6. The binding theory rules out the following sentence

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He_{*i*} thinks John_{*i*} is a genius.

6. The example in (5) is a Principle C violation.

7. The binding theory rules out the following sentence

Everyone who meets him_{*i*} admires John_{*i*}.

Binding theory decisions

8. Determine which sentences the binding theory rules out and if a sentence is ruled out, state which principle(s) is/are involved, what NP is the problem, and state whether or not it is bound.
- (a) Everyone who meets John_{*i*} admires him_{*i*}.
 - (b) Everyone who meets him_{*i*} admires John_{*i*}.
 - (c) Every farmer who owns a donkey_{*i*} beats it_{*i*}.
 - (d) Every farmer who owns it_{*i*} beats a donkey_{*i*}.
 - (e) Himself_{*i*} likes John_{*i*}.
 - (f) Himself_{*j*} likes John_{*i*}.
 - (g) He_{*i*} likes John_{*i*}.
 - (h) John_{*i*} likes Susan's_{*j*} picture of him_{*i*}.