

# Raising and Control: Syntax Fall 2007

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## 1 English Predicates

Key:

S	Subject
O	Object
C	Control
R	Raising

For example, SOR = Subject(to)-Object Raising.

### 1.1 SSR: likely, seem Funny subjects

- (1) a. It is likely to be raining  
seems  
b. There is likely to be an earthquake  
seems  
c. The cat is likely to be out of the bag  
seems  
d. The shit is likely to have hit the fan.  
seems

Idiom chunks: take advantage of, give/pay heed to, make headway, give/pay homage to, take (no) note of, keep tabs on, the chips are down, take umbrage at, pay attention to, the cat got X's tongue

Extraposition

- (2) It is likely that John will leave.  
seems

### 1.2 SC: eager, ready Funny subjects

- (3) a. \* Heed is eager to be paid his warning.  
tries  
b. \* Advantage is eager to be taken of his ignorance.  
tries  
c. \* Note is eager to be taken of his misbehavior.  
tries  
d. \* Umbrage is eager to have been taken at his remark.  
tries
- (4) \* It is eager that John will leave.  
tries

### 1.3 SOR: want, expect, believe Funny subjects

- (5) a. They wanted tabs to be/have been kept on him.  
expected  
believed  
b. They wanted homage to be/have been paid to her.  
expected  
believed  
c. They wanted the chips to be down by then.  
expected  
believed  
d. They wanted headway to be/have been made.  
expected  
believed

No reliable equivalent of extraposition test in when potential controller is the object.

- (6) a. \* They expected it that John was/would be leaving. [SOR]  
b. \* They persuaded it that John was leaving. [SC]  
c. They hated it that John was leaving. [idiosynractic]

However, when it's subject, we're back in business:

- (7) a. It was expected that John was/would be leaving. [SOR]  
b. \* It was persuaded that John was leaving. [SC]  
c. \* It was hated that John was leaving. [idiosynractic]

### 1.4 OC: persuaded, forced, told Funny subjects

- (8) a. \* They persuaded tabs to be/have been kept on him.  
forced  
told

- b. \* They persuaded homage to be/have been paid to her.  
forced  
told
  - c. \* They persuaded the chips to be down by then.  
forced  
told
  - d. \* They persuaded headway to be/have been made.  
forced  
told
- (9) \* It was persuaded that John was/would be leaving.  
forced  
told

## 2 Some notes on *there*

Cautionary notes:

Watch out for this common error, using (10) as evidence that *ready* is a raising predicate.

(10) There is a man *ready* to sing.

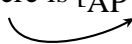
(10) would be evidence of raising, IF *there* started out in D-structure as subject of the embedded clause [ *t* to sing], but it doesn't.

Rather (10) is related to (11):

(11) A man is ready [PRO to sing].

The understood subject of *sing* is *a man*, so the downstairs clause is *a man to sing* and there is no funny subject. Then some kind of funny movement happens:

(12) There is [<sub>AP</sub> a man [PRO *ready* to sing.]]



So what is going on here is something irrelevant to the raising/control issue.

Similarly

(13) There is a cruiser afloat in the bay.

is related to

(14) A cruiser is afloat in the bay.

So this *there*-insertion is something adjectives can trigger.

Another example with a control adjective:

- (15) a. A man is eager to sing.  
b. There is a man eager to sing.

Once again: NOT evidence of raising!

The kind of example people are trying for when they produce (10):

- (16) \* There is ready [ *t* to *be a man*].

This time *there* starts out in the embedded clause in Spec TP for the right kind of verb *be*, and the result is ungrammatical, as we'd expect, since *ready* is a control adjective!

Notice how few verbs *there* can actually appear with in simple clauses:

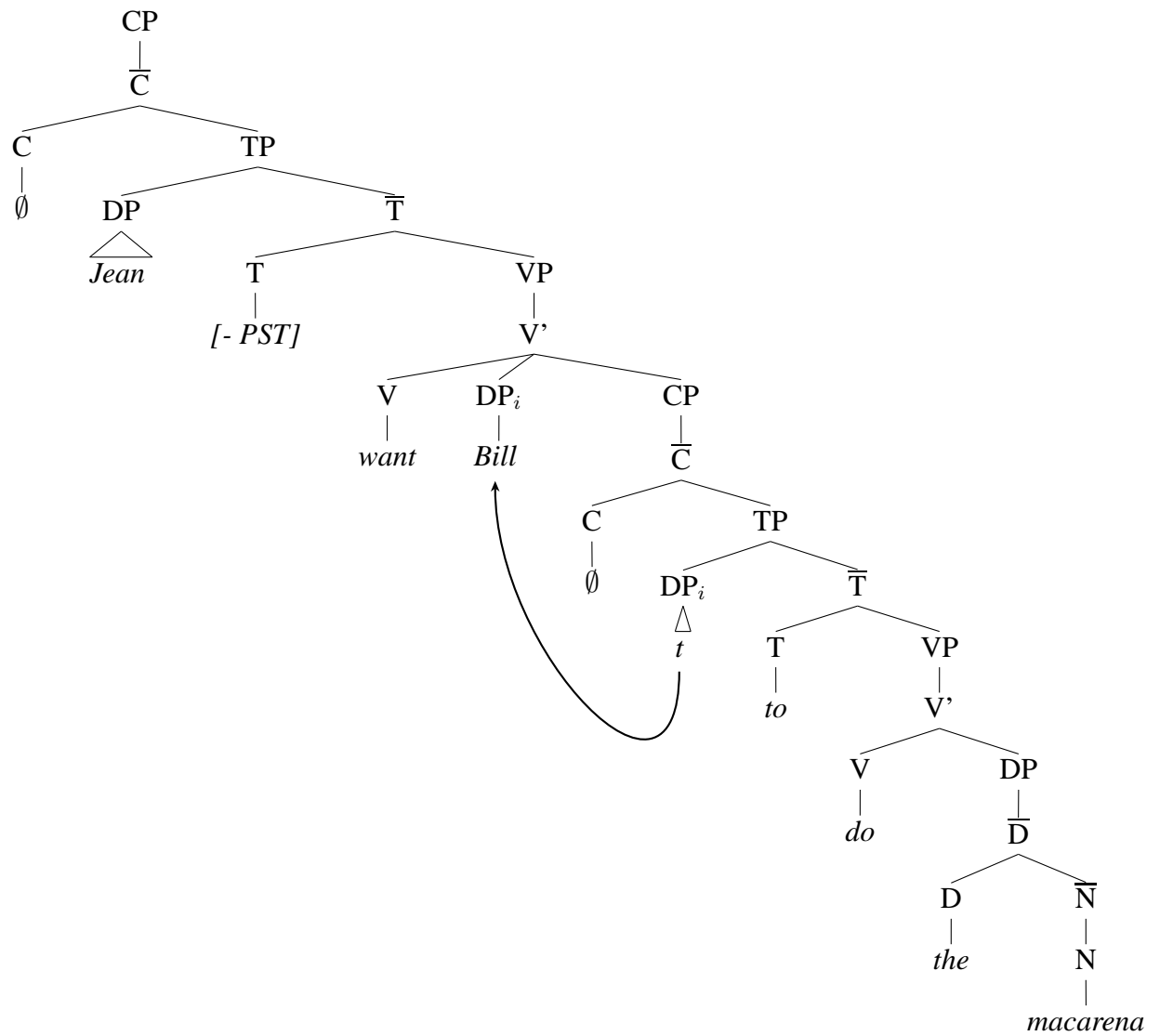
- (17) a. There was a sudden din in the courtyard.  
b. There arose a sudden din in the courtyard.  
c. There appeared in their lives an oppressive mischance.  
d. There remains a strong respect for the leadership.  
e. \* There flew into the courtyard 7 birds.  
f. \* There turned brown 3 apples.

So one of those few good *there* verbs needs to be the nonfinite verb of the embedded clause in your *there* examples when testing for control or raising, as in *correct*.

### 3 Trees

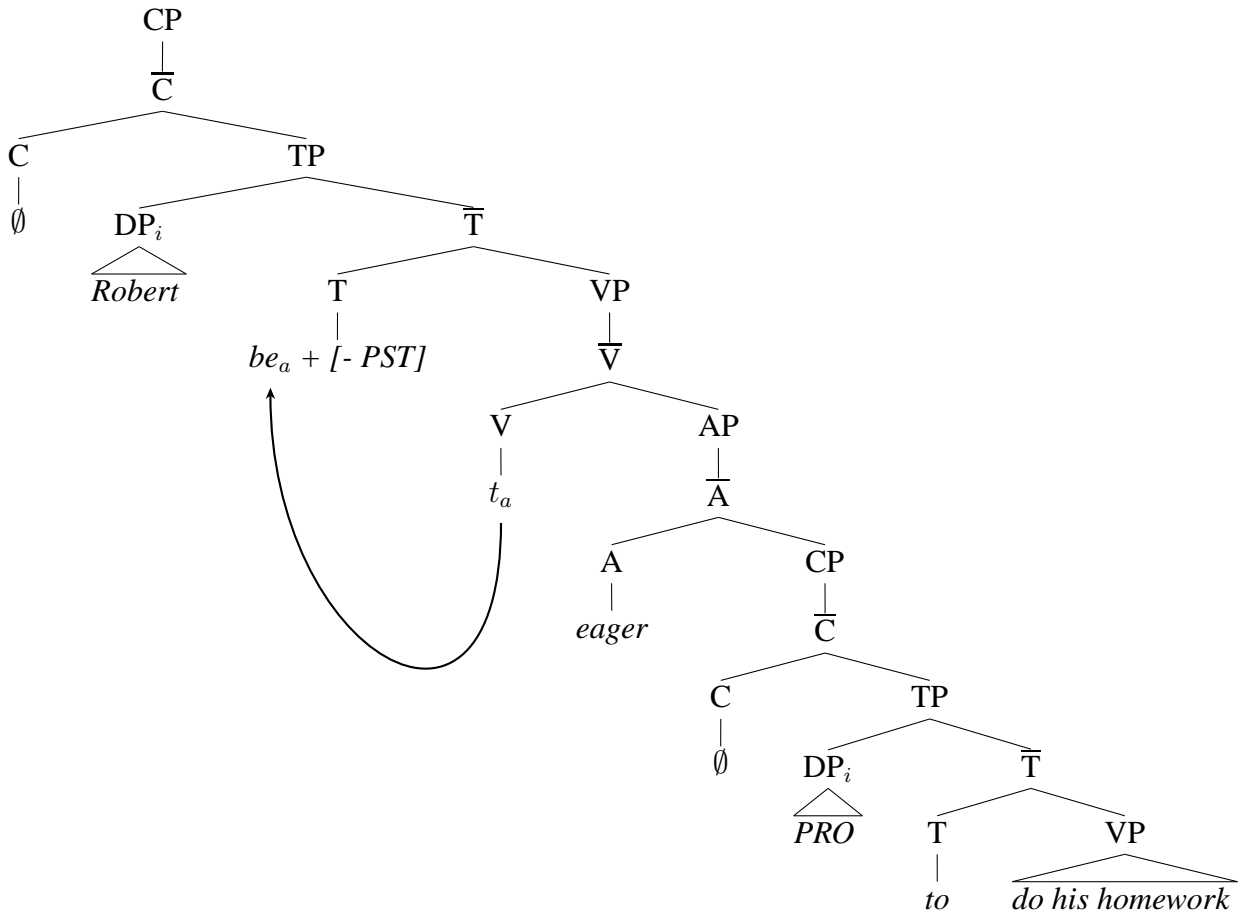
Subject to Object Raising

(18)



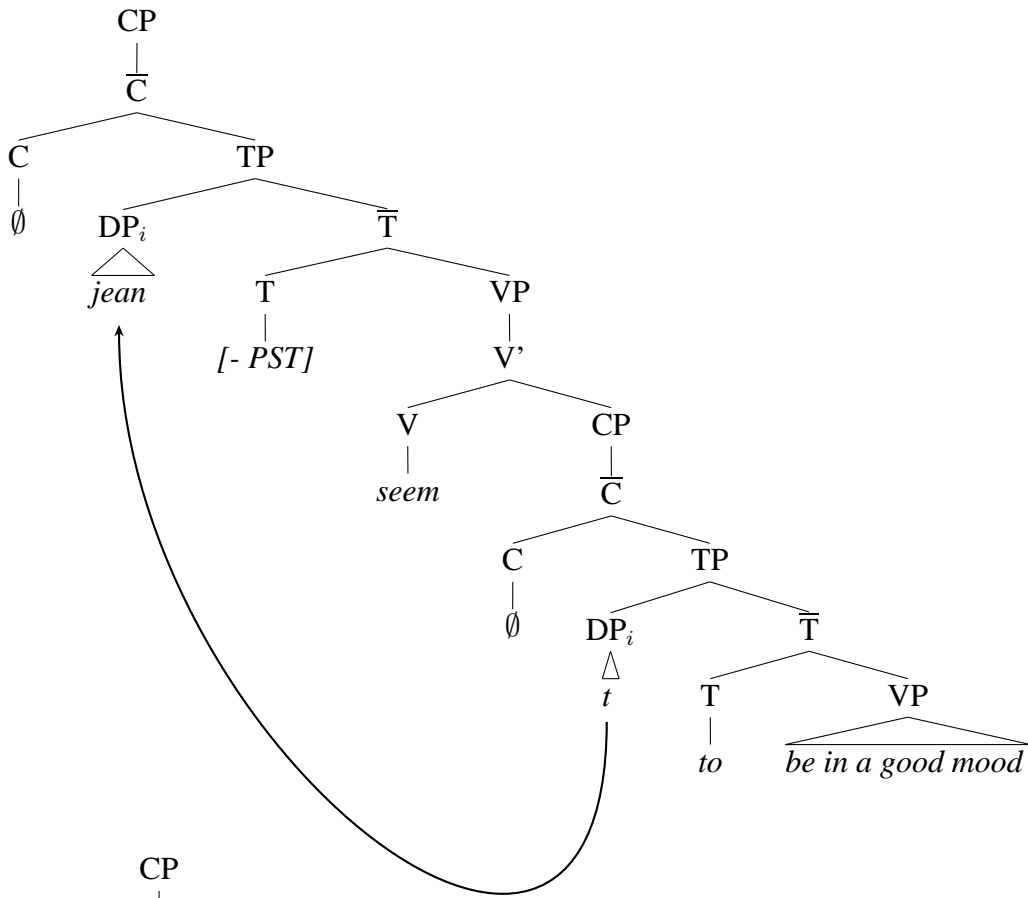
# Subject Control

(19)



# Subject raising

(20)



(21)

