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# ***Binding Theory Quiz Answers***

Jean Mark Gawron

Linguistics 522

San Diego State University

[gawron@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:gawron@mail.sdsu.edu)

<http://www.rohan.sdsu.edu/~gawron>

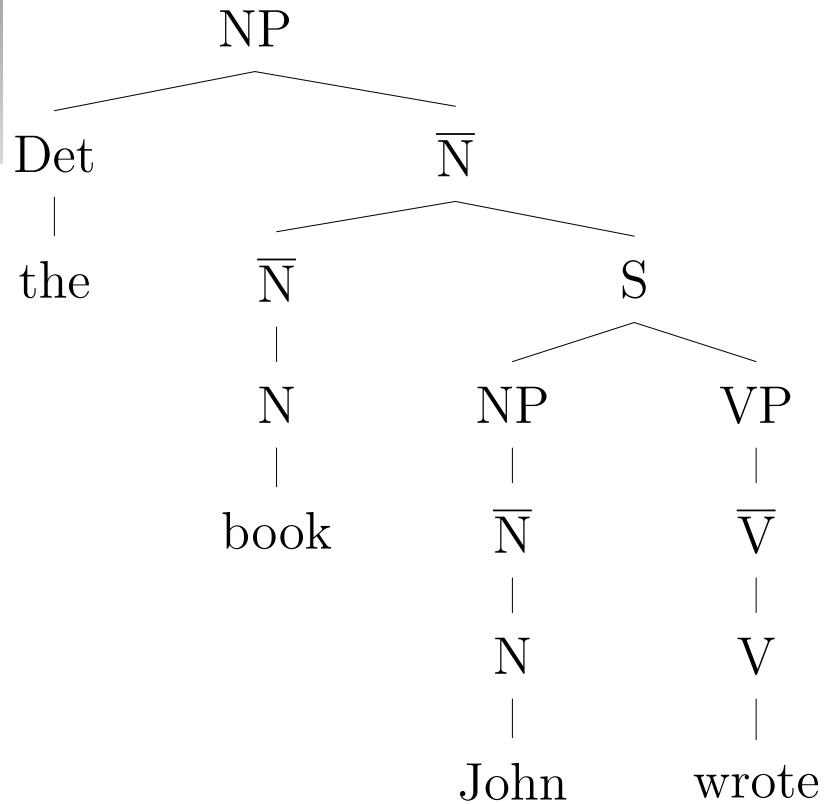
Assume the following definition of **antecedent**:

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<sub>*i*</sub> thinks he<sub>*i*</sub> is a genius.
- (ii) John<sub>*i*</sub> likes himself<sub>*i*</sub> a lot.

# *Assume relative clauses are adjuncts of nouns*



S: a relative clause

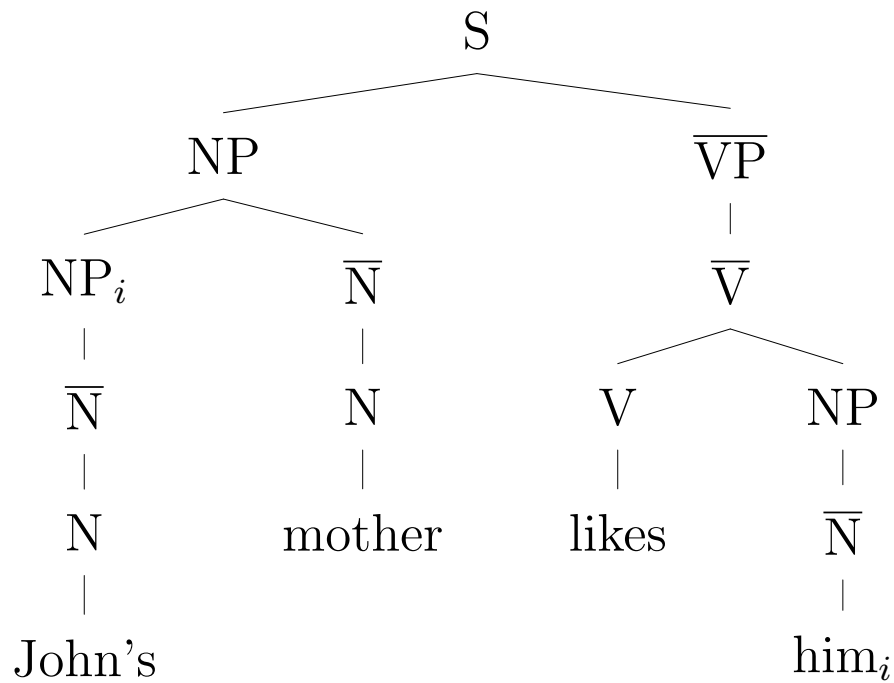
## ***General directions***

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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).

# Pronoun antecedents

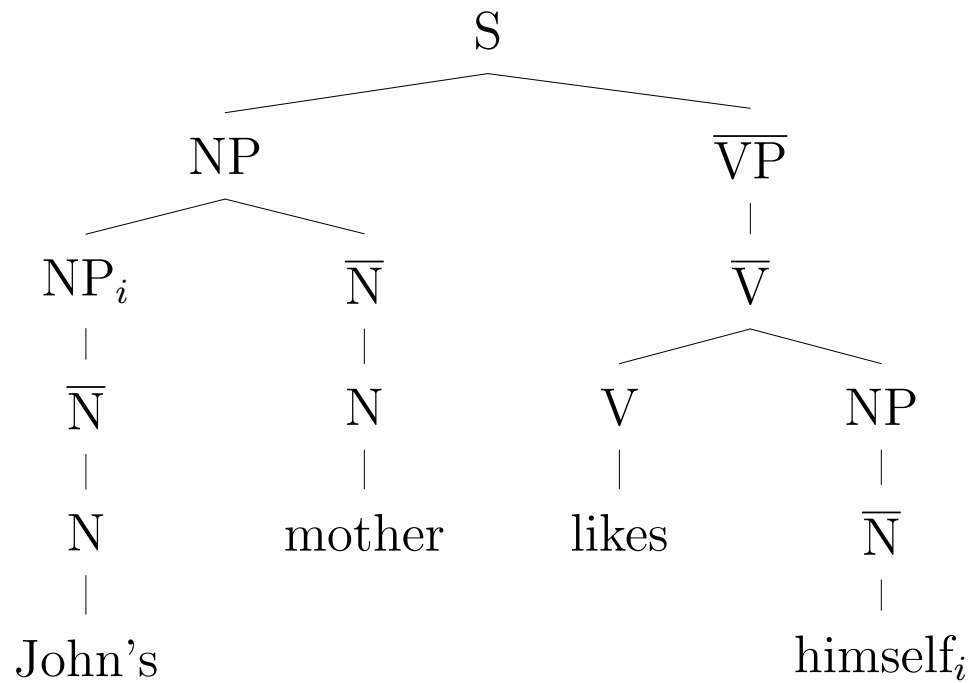
1. The antecedent of a pronoun must bind it. **False**



A non-binding antecedent.  
*John's* does not C-command  
*him*.

# Anaphor antecedents

2. The antecedent of an anaphor must bind it. **True**



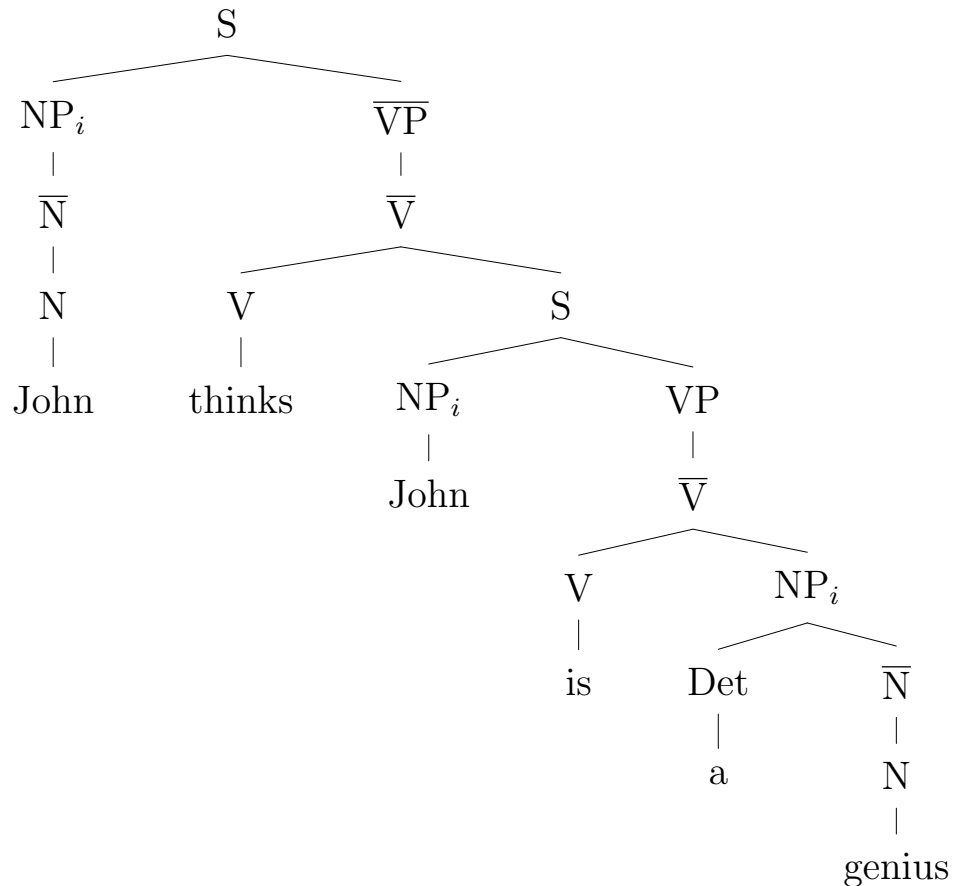
Impossibility of a non-binding antecedent

# Principle C

3. The binding theory rules out the following sentence. **True**

John<sub>i</sub> thinks John<sub>i</sub> is a genius.

4. The example in (3) is a Principle C violation. **True** *John* C-commands and is coindexed with second *John*.



5. The binding theory rules out the following sentence **True**

He<sub>*i*</sub> thinks John<sub>*i*</sub> is a genius.

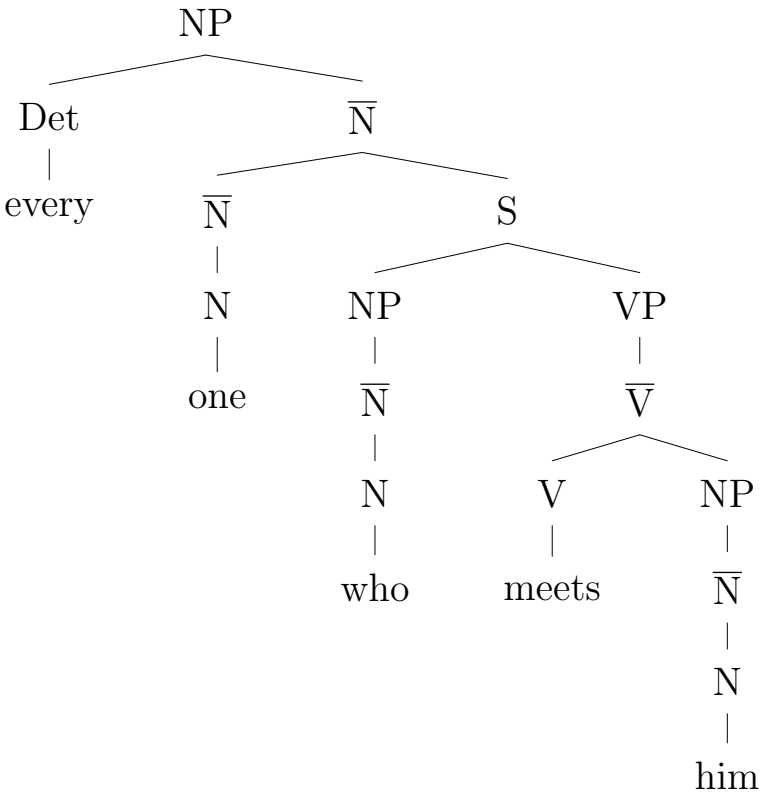
6. The example in (5) is a Principle C violation. **True**



# Principle C Revisited

7. The binding theory rules out the following sentence **False**. *him* cannot C-command anything outside its clause!

Everyone who meets  $him_i$  admires  $John_i$ .



# Binding theory decisions

8. Determine which of the following sentences the binding theory rules out and if a sentence is ruled out, state which principle(s) is/are involved.

- |     |  |     |        |
|-----|--|-----|--------|
| (a) | Everyone who meets John <sub>i</sub> admires him <sub>i</sub> .        | In  |        |
| (b) | Every farmer who owns a donkey <sub>i</sub> beats it <sub>i</sub> .    | In  |        |
| (c) | Every farmer who owns it <sub>i</sub> beats a donkey <sub>i</sub> .    | In  |        |
| (d) | Himself <sub>i</sub> likes John <sub>i</sub> .                         | Out | Prin C |
|     |  |     | Prin A |
| (e) | Himself <sub>j</sub> likes John <sub>i</sub> .                         | Out | Prin A |
| (f) | He <sub>i</sub> likes John <sub>i</sub> .                              | Out | Prin C |
| (g) | John <sub>i</sub> likes her <sub>j</sub> picture of him <sub>i</sub> . | Out | Prin B |