

## Assignment 1: Pronominal Coreference

### 1 Two Rules

- (1) **Pronoun Rule:** to check if a pronoun can be used to refer to a noun phrase, replace the pronoun with an appropriate reflexive pronoun and check if the resulting sentence allows for the reflexive to refer to the noun phrase in question. If a reflexive is possible, a pronoun cannot be used.
- (2) **Name Rule:** A pronoun cannot refer to a name if the pronoun is a subject and the name appears within its (= the pronoun's) predicate.

Now consider the following examples. For each indicate whether the boldfaced noun phrases can co-refer according to your own judgements. Next apply the Pronoun Rule and the Name Rule to each example and report what predictions they make.

- (3) a. **She** likes **Mina**.  
b. **Mina** likes **her**.
- (4) a. **Her** mother likes **Mina**.  
b. **Mina's** mother likes **her**.  
c. **She** likes **Mina's** mother.  
d. **Mina** likes **her** mother.
- (5) a. The fact that **she** is famous gives **Mina** little pleasure.  
b. The fact that **Mina** is famous gives **her** little pleasure.
- (6) a. **He** believes that **Tom** is a genius.  
b. **He** believes that **he** is a genius.  
c. **Tom** believes that **he** is a genius.  
d. **He** believes **Tom** to be genius.  
e. **He** believes **him** to be genius.  
f. **Tom** believes **him** to be genius.
- (7) a. Tom told **her** that **Mina** had just won the lottery.  
b. Tom told **Mina** that **she** had just won the lottery.