Final Exam

You are not allowed to collaborate or consult with your classmates for this exam. You are, however, encouraged to contact me by email or ask questions in class should you have any confusion about what the questions are asking for.

This is the take-home part of the exam. There is also an in-class portion which will be administered on May 10 and May 12.

1. Consider the following examples. In (1a-c), the pronoun he can refer to John. This is not possible in (1d).

   (1) a. When John, saw Mary, he, smiled.
   b. When he, saw Mary, John, smiled.
   c. John, smiled when he, saw Mary.
   d. *He, smiled when John, saw Mary.

Assume that when appears in the Specifier of CP associated with the John saw Mary TP. The C head here would be null. Also assume that the when clause can be adjoined to either VP or TP. Further assume for simplicity that the matrix clause is a TP (i.e. do not add a null CP layer on top of the smiled clause).

Task 1.1. Show the trees possible for clause-initial when-clauses (i.e. 1a-b) and the trees possible for clause-final when-clauses (i.e. 1c-d). Your trees should comply with X-bar theory. For this problem, do not use evidence from Binding Theory to limit the number of trees possible. [40 points]

Task 1.2. Now use evidence from binding theory to determine which of the trees you have proposed in Task 1.1. are actually viable. [40 points]

2. In class, we have discussed four syntactic configurations where find do-support in English. Take any three of these configurations and show why we get do-support here. Your discussion should provide examples and trees to exemplify each of the configurations you examine. [60 points, 1 page max, not including trees].

3. Provide syntactic derivations (i.e. trees with movements indicated) for the following examples. Your trees should also indicate who assigns a θ-role to what, who assigns case to what, and for the ungrammatical sentences, an indication of the cause of ungrammaticality. (80 points)

   (2) a. It seems that it is certain that John won the race.
   b. It seems to be certain that John won the race.
   c. *It seems to be certain John to win the race.
   d. It seems that John is certain to win the race.
e. *It seems John to be certain to win the race.
f. John seems to be certain to win the race.
g. *John seems to be certain won the race.
h. *John seems that it is certain to win the race.
   (for simplicity assume that clauses without a that are bare TPs, while clauses with a that are CPs.)

4. Problem on wh-movement: to be done in class. (80 points)