

## Questions on Covert Movement and Type-Shifting

### (1) Type Shifting of Transitive Verbs

In class, we developed and evaluated a particular ‘type-shifting’ analysis of sentences like (a). Under this analysis, the underlying structure of such sentences was like that in (b), where the quantificational determiner is sister to a type-shifting operator.

- a. Barack likes every boy.
- b. [ Barack [ likes [ [ every SHIFT ] boy ] ... ]

In this exercise, we will explore an alternative type-shifting account, one that posits sentence (a) to have the structure in (c). Note that in structure (c), the *transitive verb* is the argument to the ‘SHIFT’ operator.

- c. [ Barack [ [ likes SHIFT ] [ every boy ] ] ]
- d. **Question 1**  
Please provide a semantics for SHIFT that will render structure (c) interpretable by our system.
- e. **Question 2**  
Please review the empirical challenges faced by the type-shifting account developed in class; that is, please review Section 2 of the handout *Quantificational DPs, Part 3*. Does the type-shifting analysis you developed in Question 1 fare any better? Or, is it still subject to all those same criticisms?

### (2) ‘Weak Cross Over’ and Covert Movement

It’s long been observed that the sentence in (a) does not readily admit the reading in (b).

- a. His mother hates every boy.
- b. For all x, if x is a boy, then the unique y such that y is a mother and y belongs to x hates x. (*i.e.*, ‘Every boy is hated by his mother’)
- c. **Question 1**  
Does the type-shifting account developed in class predict this fact?
- d. **Question 2:**  
Does the covert movement account offer an explanation of this fact?