Special Sentences

Movement

Movement occurs when …
- we ask questions
  - Yes/No questions
  - Wh-questions
- when we make an exclamation
- when we want to emphasize something
  - Topicalization
  - Passives
  - Clefts
  - Pseudo-clefts

Movement and Mood

- In traditional grammar, mood is a group of verb forms. In English, …
  - **Indicative** mood is used in statements.
  - **Imperative** mood is used in commands.
  - **Interrogative** mood is used in questions.
  - **Subjunctive** mood is used to express possibilities and wishes.

Identify the mood in these verbs

1. Who went away for the summer?
2. Don't tell me you stayed in Madison!
3. I enjoyed the break.
4. God bless America!
5. My holiday wish is that nobody go to Lou's Burritos.
6. Do you understand?

Identify the mood in these verbs

1. Interrogative mood
2. Imperative mood
3. I enjoyed the break.
4. God bless America!
5. My holiday wish is that nobody go to Lou's Burritos.
6. Do you understand?
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2. Imperative mood
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Identify the mood in these verbs

1. Interrogative mood
2. Imperative mood
3. Indicative mood
4. Subjunctive mood
5. is is indicative mood, go is subjunctive mood
6. Do you understand?

Identify the mood in these verbs

1. Interrogative mood
2. Imperative mood
3. Indicative mood
4. Subjunctive mood
5. is is indicative mood, go is subjunctive mood
6. Interrogative mood

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Yes/No Questions

- That is interesting.
- Is that interesting?
- She can go.
- Can she go?
- I saw Santa.
- Did you see Santa?
Evidence for Movement

- Movement is blocked when the complementizer position is occupied.
  - I wondered whether she can go.
    - NOT I wondered whether can she go.
  - He asked if that was interesting.
    - NOT He asked if was that interesting.
  - He demanded that you tell him if you saw Santa.
    - NOT He demanded that you tell him if did you see Santa.

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**Wh- Questions**

- Who did you see?
- What did you do?
- Why did you do that?
- When did you go?
- Where did you go?
- How did you get there?

**Echo Questions Are Evidence for Movement and a TRACE**

- Who did you see?
- What did you do?
- Why did you do that?
- When did you go?
- Where did you go?
- How did you get there?

- You saw WHO?
- You did WHAT?
- You did that BECAUSE?
- When did you go?
- Where did you go?
- How did you get there?

- You saw WHO?
- You went WHEN?
- Where did you go?
- How did you get there?
Echo Questions Are Evidence for Movement and a TRACE

- You saw WHO?
- You did WHAT?
- You did that BECAUSE?
- You went WHEN?
- You went WHERE?
- How did you get there?

Wh- Questions

- Which element moved to the wh- position and where is its trace?
  1. Who will you see?
  2. How heavy is that package?
  3. Where did the boy hurt himself?
  4. Where did the boy say that he hurt himself?
  5. Where did the boy say that he hurt himself?
  6. Where did the boy say how he hurt himself?

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**Wh- Questions**

Which element moved and left a trace?
- **How much wood would a woodchuck chuck**, if a woodchuck could chuck wood?

**Movement in Wh- Clauses**

- The Grinch stole Christmas **Adverbial**
- How the Grinch stole Christmas **t.**
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Exclamations!

Grandmother was lying there with her cap pulled down over her face and looking very strange.

- "Oh, grandmother, what big ears you have!"
- "All the better to hear you with."
- "Oh, grandmother, what big eyes you have!"
- "All the better to see you with."
- "Oh, grandmother, what big hands you have!"
- "All the better to grab you with!"
- "Oh, grandmother, what a horribly big mouth you have!"
  - "All the better to eat you with."

And with that the wolf jumped out of bed, jumped on top of poor Little Red Riding Hood, and ate her up.

Exclamations!

- What big ears you have!
  - You have such big ears.
- What big eyes you have!
  - You have such big eyes.
- What big hands you have!
  - You have such big hands.
- What a horribly big mouth you have!
  - You have such a horribly big mouth.

Information Focus

Topicalization: Put the information focus on the first constituent of a sentence.
Information Focus

**Topicalization:** Put the information focus on the first constituent of a sentence.

- I love German beer.
  *German beer, I love.*

- The flag went up.
  *Up went the flag.*

**Passivization:** Subjects of verbs get all the attention! Passivization puts the information focus on the object of the verb.

- They persuaded Elly to try some German beer.
  *Elly was persuaded to try some German beer.*

- You have to make a choice.
  *A choice has to be made.*

**Clefts:** A separation of one sentence constituent from the others by placing it as a separate clause at the front of a sentence.

- I bought my Mazda Miata from Don Miller.
Information Focus

- I bought my Mazda Miata from Don Miller.

It was my Mazda Miata that I bought from Don Miller.

Information Focus

- I bought my Mazda Miata from Don Miller.

It was from Don Miller that I bought my Mazda Miata.

Information Focus

- Pseudo-clefts
  - Like clefts, pseudo-clefts separate one sentence constituent from the others by placing it at the front of a sentence.
  - Unlike clefts, the fronted clause functions as a constituent in the main clause.

Information Focus

- I'm trying to teach you about pseudo-clefts.
  - [What I'm trying to do] is to teach you about pseudo-clefts.
  - I enjoy the way you struggle with English grammar.
  - [What I enjoy] is the way you struggle with English grammar.
  - But everybody needs a good rest right now.
  - But [what everybody needs right now] is a good rest.

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