

**Ling 325, Exam 2: Due Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>.**

1. Provide (i) LFs and (ii) semantic derivations for the following sentences (45 pts.)

- (1) No gifts from Elizabeth were opened<sub>passive</sub>.
- (2) Every bloody invasion of New Brunswick near East Brunswick frightened Tom.
- (3) Some shy people from Alaska undressed<sub>rod</sub> and drank<sub>cod</sub>.

2. Based on the three diagnostics for unaccusativity, (i) determine whether *sink* and *swim*, as used in (4) and (5), are unergative or unaccusative, and (ii) give their lexical entries (20 pts.)

- (4) Sara swam.
- (5) Sara sank.

Be sure to write in complete sentences, and to provide examples to illustrate the results of at least two of the diagnostics.

3. Our grammar predicts that the following two sentences differ in meaning:

- (6) Sara sank.
- (7) Sara was sunk.

Provide the denotations for the *sank* and *sunk* as used here, and explain, in complete sentences, what the predicted difference in meaning is (and, in particular, how the difference follows from the denotations of *sank* and *sunk*) (10 pts.)

4. Explain in complete sentences why (11)-(12) are bad, while (8)-(10) are good (10 pts.)

- (8) John is eager to undress.
- (9) John is eager to be undressed.
- (10) John is easy to undress.
- (11) \*John is easy to be undressed.
- (12) \*John is easy to die.

5. Think of another adjective in English that behaves syntactically and semantically just like *eager*, and one that behaves syntactically and semantically just like *easy*. (10 pts.)

6. Icelandic has Active and Passive alternations much like in English:

- (13) a. Við kusum þá.  
we elected them  
'We elected them.'
- b. Þeir voru kosnir.  
they were elected  
'They were elected.'

- (14) a. Ég hef tekið bókina.  
I have taken the.book  
'I have taken the book.'
- b. Bókin var tekin.  
the.book was taken  
'The book was taken.'

Unlike English, Icelandic permits intransitive verbs to undergo passivization:

- (15) a. Páll söng hátt.  
Páll sang loudly  
'Páll sang loudly.'
- b. Það var sungið hátt.  
It was sung loudly  
'There was loud singing.'

However, not all intransitive verbs can be passivized. The passives in the following (b) examples are ungrammatical (unless the implicit subject is interpreted as an Agent.)

- (16) a. Margir menn dóu í stríðinu.  
many men died in the.war  
'Many men died in the war.'
- b. \*Það var dáið í stríðinu.  
It was died in the.war  
'There was dying in the war.'

- (17) a. Páll rann á ísnum.  
Páll slid on the.ice  
'Páll slid on the ice.'
- b. \*Það var runnið á ísnum.  
It was slid on the.ice  
'There was sliding on the ice.'

Based on these examples, which intransitive verbs permit passivization in Icelandic, and which do not (5 pts)?