

Russian 607

Assignment for Friday, March 30, 2007

Dear Students,

We are approaching the last month of the semester! Here is a tentative schedule for your individual presentations (subject to changes by mutual agreement). Plan about 30 minutes for your presentation and a question period.

John Biszko	Friday April 13 - Slavic scripts and their history
Jacob Christie	Friday April 13
Ludmila Dane	Friday April 13
Christin Davis	Friday April 20 - Approaches to Althochdeutsch and Altsachsisch
Megan Haissig	Friday April 20 - Language death: the case of Sorbian
Sunny Hart	Friday April 20
Ian Herbert	Friday April 27
Stefanos Roulakis	Friday April 27
Daria Chylak	Friday April 27

We may still have some time for further discussion of Chomsky after today, but Friday April 6 is Easter break. Perhaps we can schedule a May meeting and push the presentations back one week.

For Friday March 29, please try to read through Chapter 7, "Government." For this Friday, look back at 4-5-6 and prepare for a quiz which will include questions/discussion from the following list from 4-6:

1. In X-bar theory, discuss the structure of the D-representation. What is the maximal projection of the sentence? Show the VP structure in detail, with V', V, subject and adjunct.
2. What are theta-roles and what is s-selection?
3. What is the Projection Principle and what is the theta criterion?
4. How are subjects and complements theta-marked? (172ff)
5. Grammatical Functions, such as 'subject of' and 'object of' are defined by what? (175ff)
6. Name some A-positions and some non-A positions. [Doesn't this seem rather artificially designed here, just to make movement work?]
7. Why is the specifier of IP an A-position, but gets no theta role? Give an example of what can go there. (180ff)
8. What are some types of Functional Phrases which have generated much discussion? (18ff)
9. What about Slavic languages being analyzed with AGR and Tense? What problems will arise?

10. “Languages differ only in the properties they select for their functional categories, while lexical categories are universal and uniform.” (186) Comment.

## Chapter 6. Movement and Case Theory.

Just a few general questions. This is a complex chapter,

11. Discuss the D-structure of a passive sentence such as “e were defeated the Saxons.” What happens? What is “e”? Are there other structures which invoke the same sort of movement?

12. Look at *wh*- movement, pp. 199-200. Discuss V, [<sub>NP</sub>] <experiencer, source> and D-structure ‘he past see who’. Where exactly does *who* move to? (The triggering devices here seem to me artificial.)

13. Subject and verb movement (207-211). Will Judith pass? Where does the subject move, and where does the auxiliary *will* move?

14. Discuss the joke: A (an American): Have you many children? B (an Englishman): Not very often. (211).

15. Can you understand V-movement in German? (219). Try to figure out the main argument.