

24.902  
Fall 2015  
Iatridou

PSet#2

I a. [2] What is the Case Filter?

b. [1] Show an English sentence that is ungrammatical because the Case Filter is violated and explain how/why it is violated. *That is, nothing else should be wrong with this sentence.* Do not just copy a sentence from the slides.

II. [2] How would you describe the difference between an ergative-absolutive language and a nominative-accusative language?

III. For each underlined NP (and when relevant, for each index), state which principle (or principles) of the Binding Theory (i.e., A, B, and/or C) is responsible for the (un)grammaticality of the sentence.

Explain how the principle in question accounts for the judgment.

1. \*'Stan thinks that Mary likes himself. [3]
2. \* Mike<sub>i</sub> introduced him<sub>i</sub> to the children. [3]
3. Mike<sub>i</sub>'s mother introduced him<sub>i</sub> to the children. [3]
4. \* She<sub>i</sub> thought that Oprah<sub>i</sub>'s network was a good idea. [3]
5. John and Mary amuse each other. [3]
6. His<sub>i</sub> father thinks that Bill<sub>i</sub> is very smart [3]
7. He<sub>i/\*k</sub> takes an aspirin if Fred<sub>k</sub> has a headache [3]
8. He<sub>i/k</sub> takes an aspirin if he<sub>k/m</sub> has a headache [3]x4
9. Mackey<sub>i</sub> said that David<sub>k</sub> introduced him<sub>i/\*k</sub> to the children. [3]x2
10. '[Her<sub>k</sub> mother]<sub>m</sub> believes in herself<sub>m/\*k</sub> [3]x2

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