Extra Syntax Exercises X

*** The X-Files ***


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Draw the tree structure of the following sentences:

(1) They eventually threw out the garbage.
(2) They eventually threw the garbage out.
(3) She bought him a nice present.
(4) They should not let him leave.
(5) Don’t you let him leave.
(6) Professor Neil Smith
(7) That annoying Ken Ramshøj “Is it lunchtime yet?” Christensen from Aarhus
(8) What the Hell are you doing?
(9) Actually, we probably shouldn’t have danced to that song
ANSWERS

Trees drawn using Miles Shang’s Syntax Tree Generator (http://mshang.ca/syntree/)
Additional text, figures, lines and arrows added in Microsoft PowerPoint
(1)

Particle shift:
The DP object moves around the particle in Prt° into spec-PrtP.

(see Haegeman & Guéron 1999:252-264)
Particle incorporation: The particle and the verb form a complex constituent, V*.
(3)

Indirect object: spec-VP

Direct object: sister of V°

V°-to-V° movement:
The lexical verb is still in a V° inside VP following never left-adjointed to VP

Adjunct:
Left-adjointed modifier of VP

(see Haegeman & Guéron 1999:125)
(4) An infinitival IP without to in I°.

**Subject in spec-IP**
- **DP**
  - **They**

**Clausal object:** Sister of V°
- **DP**
  - **him**

**Subject in spec-IP**
- **IP**
  - **I°**
    - **AdvP**
      - **not**
  - **VP**
    - **V°**
      - **let**
        - **DP**
          - **him**
    - **VP**
      - **V°**
      - **V'**

Embedded NON-FINITE clause. An infinitival IP without to in I°.
As the subject occupies spec-IP, the auxiliary verb must have moved to C*, cf. that it cannot follow the subject:

*Don’t let him leave!
*You don’t let him leave!
Don’t you let him leave!

Subject in spec-IP

I°-to-C° movement: Subject-Auxiliary Inversion (SAI)

Embedded NON-FINITE clause. An infinitival IP without to in I°.

Clausal object: Sister of V°
A nominal modifier, such as professor, king, mister or doctor, is an NP, not a DP, cf. that it is not possible to have a determiner immediately preceding it:

We all miss [good old [professor Smith]].
We all miss [the good old [professor Smith]].
*We all miss [the good old [the professor Smith]].
*We all miss [good old [the professor Smith]].
The first name is in the specifier of the middle name. The first and middle names form a constituent in the specifier of the surname.

Note that each name (first, middle and surname) must be an NP in order to allow for adunction of phrasal modifiers. In compound names, e.g. Hans-Henrik (where the primary stress is on the second part) are complex N°s.
Modifiers are normally adjoined to NP, not to DP. However, there are other examples of *adjunction to DP*, cf.

- *[He who must not be named]*. (Harry Potter)
- *[He who pays the piper] calls the tune*. (Proverb)
- *[Only the good] die young*. (Old saying)
- *Let [him who hath understanding] reckon the number of the beast*. (The Bible)
Adjunct adjoined to IP

Adjunction to an XP projects another instance of that XP.

IP-recursion: An IP selecting another IP

The subject moves from the lower spec-IP to the higher spec-IP, but this is NOT raising: It is movement within the same clause.