UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualification:-

B.A.

Italian X255: Issues in Italian Syntax

COURSE CODE	:	**ITALX255**
UNIT VALUE	:	**0.50**
DATE	:	**29-MAY-03**
TIME	:	**14.30**
TIME ALLOWED	:	**3 Hours**

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ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM *ALL* SECTIONS AS INSTRUCTED BELOW.

SECTION A - Phrasal Constituency and Thematic Assignment.

Answer THREE of the following four questions (1, 2, 3, and 4). *(Questions 1-4 should be answered in the spaces provided below.)*

1. Determine whether the *underlined* expression in the following FOUR sentences is a phrasal constituent, and if so provide its syntactic category and its head as in the examples given. Remember to distinguish VP from IP. You may restrict your choice to the following phrasal categories: DP, AP, VP, IP, PP.

	NO:	YES:	Category:	Head:
E.g.1: <u>John has always loved Mary</u>.	-	*Yes*	*IP*	*has*
E.g.2: The <u>dog bit</u> a cat.	*No*	-	-	-
a. John has <u>always loved Mary</u>.	___	___	___	_____
b. John has always <u>loved Mary</u>.	___	___	___	_____
c. Your friends have <u>all reached Rome</u>.	___	___	___	_____
d. Your <u>friends have all reached Rome</u>.	___	___	___	_____

2. Determine whether the *underlined* expression in the following FOUR sentences is a phrasal constituent, and if so provide its syntactic category and its head as in the examples given. Remember to distinguish VP from IP. You may restrict your choice to the following phrasal categories: DP, AP, VP, IP, PP.

	NO:	YES:	Category:	Head:
E.g.1: <u>Gli uomini hanno sempre bevuto vino</u>.	___	*Yes*	*IP*	*hanno*
E.g.2: Gli uomini <u>hanno sempre</u> bevuto vino.	*No*	___	___	_____
a. Gli italiani <u>erano tutti allegri</u>.	___	___	___	_____
b. <u>Smettere di fumare è difficile</u>.	___	___	___	_____
c. È <u>difficile smettere</u> di fumare.	___	___	___	_____
d. Marco credeva di aver <u>visto l'assassino</u>.	___	___	___	_____

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3. Determine if the *underlined* expression in each of the FOUR following sentences is thematically assigned, and in this case also provide the theta-assigner. Pay attention to any potential movement operation displacing arguments from their base-generated position.

	Theta-assigned?	Theta-assigner:
E.g.1 : I never eat <u>frozen beans</u> in the morning.	*Yes*	*eat*
E.g.2 : I never eat frozen beans <u>in the morning</u>.	*No*	–
a. <u>John</u> has put the books on the table.	____	____
b. <u>John</u> seems to have loved the movie.	____	____
c. Maria leggeva il libro <u>in giardino.</u>	____	____
d. Luca è stato arrestato ieri a Roma <u>dalla polizia italiana.</u>	____	____

4. Briefly describe one empirical property that differentiates *arguments* from *adjuncts*.

SECTION B - Syntactic Movement. Answer ALL questions (5, 6, and 7) in a separate book.

5. Provide the tree-structure representation for EITHER sentence (a) OR sentence (b) below.
   You may restrict your phrasal categories to DP, NP, IP, VP, and PP, and parse the quantifier *'tutti'* under the node-label Q (for 'quantifier') and the adverb under the node-label ADV.
   Remember to label each word and each tree-node with the appropriate syntactic category. Whenever a movement operation applies, properly represent all traces left behind by the moving item.

   a. Noi guardiamo raramente la televisione.

   b. I ragazzi avevano tutti visto un film.

6. Briefly explain why the English sentence in (b) requires *do-support* while the Italian sentence in (a) does not, and then provide the tree-structure representation for EITHER the Italian sentence in (a) OR the English sentence in (b) below. The representation MUST include the phrasal categories AgrP and TP. Remember to label each word and each tree-node with the appropriate syntactic category. Whenever a movement operation applies, properly represent all traces left behind by the moving item.

   a. Noi non votavamo mica tutti.

   b. We did not all vote.

CONTINUE

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7. Provide the tree-structure representation for EITHER the Italian sentence in (a) OR the English sentence in (b) below. You may analyse the Italian interrogative operator 'Quale canzone' and English 'Who' as DPs. You may parse 'non' in sentence (a) into I^o. Remember to label each word and each tree-node with the appropriate syntactic category. Whenever a movement operation applies, properly represent all traces left behind by the moving item.

    a. Quale canzone non ha cantato nessuno?

    b. Who has ordered shrimps?

SECTION C - Passives, Ergatives, and Raising Structures.

Answer BOTH questions (8 and 9) in a separate book. When providing tree-structure representations, always remember to label each word and tree-node with the appropriate syntactic category. Whenever a movement operation applies, properly represent all traces left behind by the moving item.

8. Briefly explain what properties related to theta- and case-assignment are shared by the ergative and passive sentences in (b) and (c) but not by the active sentence in (a).

    a. Le continue cannonate hanno affondato le navi molto velocemente.

    b. Le navi sono affondate molto velocemente.

    c. Le navi sono state affondate molto velocemente dalle continue cannonate.

9. Provide the tree-structure representation for EITHER the sentence in (a) OR the sentence in (b) below. You may restrict your phrasal categories to DP, NP, IP, AuxP and VP. You may also use the 'Agr/PartP' projection for agreeing participles where relevant, and the label Q for the quantifier 'tutti'.

    a. I terroristi sembrano essere stati tutti identificati.

    b. Le navi sembravano affondare velocemente.

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SECTION D - Case-theory and Null-subjects.

Answer BOTH questions (10 and 11) in the spaces provided below.

10. For each of the following FOUR sentences, determine which head assigns case to the *underlined* DP, and provide its syntactic category, as in the example given.

	Case-assigning head:	Category:
E.g.: John likes <u>Mary</u>.	*like*	V^o
a. Abbiamo visto <u>i soldati</u> partire per la guerra.	_____	_____
b. Abbiamo portato il denaro a <u>Maria</u>.	_____	_____
c. I was followed by <u>the secret services</u>.	_____	_____
d. <u>The guests</u> were believed to have enjoyed the meal.	_____	_____

11. Consider the sentence below. Explain why the null subject '*pro*' cannot denote an independent referent distinct from 'Luca' (e.g. it cannot refer to Luca's wife).

> * Avendo *pro* bevuto troppo, Luca decise di chiamare un taxi.   (where *pro* = Luca's wife)
> *Having (she) drunk too much, Luca decided to call a taxi.*
> Since she had drunk too much, Luca decided to call a taxi.

END OF PAPER