

24.951  
Fall 2015  
Iatridou  
HW#5 total:50 points

I. [25] Consider the following:

1. It is wrong that Bob insulted the president
2. Bob was wrong to insult the president
3. It was wrong of Bob to insult the president

The question is whether there are any derivational relations among these three sentences. You should be able to answer this question if you take the following sentences into account:

4. It is wrong that there is so much injustice in the world
5. \*there<sub>i</sub> is wrong to be so much injustice in the world
6. It is wrong that curable diseases still ravage so many areas in the world
7. #Curable diseases are wrong to ravage so many areas in the world.
8. \*It is wrong of there to be so much injustice in the world
9. #It is wrong of curable diseases to ravage so many areas in the world
10. It is wrong for there to be so much injustice in the world
11. It is wrong for the cat to get out of the bag
12. It is wrong for curable diseases to ravage so many areas in the world

The following two lack an idiomatic reading:

13. The cat was wrong to be out of the bag
14. It is wrong of the cat to get out of the bag

And if you think you need some more sentences in the paradigm, please do some fieldwork! If you cannot figure everything out, it is ok. Do your best and you will receive partial credit.

II. [20] In the following sentences, say who the agent of *discover* can or cannot be and why, as well as what the indices of the pronouns can be and why.

1. Discovering that Mary had failed the exam upset her very much
2. Discovering that she had failed the exam upset Mary very much
3. Discovering that she had failed the exam upset her very much

III. [5] What properties should an “unaccusativity diagnostic” have? Do not give an example!

MIT OpenCourseWare  
<http://ocw.mit.edu>

24.902 / 24.932 Language and its Structure II: Syntax  
Fall 2015

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: <http://ocw.mit.edu/terms>.