SAMPLE QUESTION SET

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1.   Within the standard Minimalist Syntax, which of the following phrases constitutes a Phase in Syntax?
     a) VP
     b) vP
     c) TP
     d) NP

2.   The sentence "What did Geeta make the claim that her friends wrote?" is ungrammatical due to the Island Constraint_____
     a) Co-ordinate structure constraint
     b) Wh-island
     c) Clausal subject constraint
     d) Complex NP constraint

3.   Which of the following properties is NOT a typical characteristic of Dravidian languages?
     a) Post-position incorporation
     b) Double-Dative constructions
     c) Complex Sandhi rules
     d) Explicator light verbs in negative constructions

4.   The sentence "Jeremy told Ferdinand to close the door" is an example of
     a) Raising construction
     b) Topicalization
     c) Control construction
     d) Exceptional Case Marking

5.   In the English sentence "Hanna has not read anything", the word *anything* needs a negator to license it. The word *anything* in this sentence is an example of
     a) An emphatic
     b) Negative Polarity Item
     c) Indefinite pronoun
     d) Anaphor

6. The Copy Theory of Control assumes that _____
   a) A PRO is a distinct covert NP.
   b) The PRO is indistinct from a small pro.
   c) A movement of a DP can take place into a Theta-position.
   d) The PRO is an overt NP.

7. The Empty Category Principle states that _____
   a) The traces must be properly governed.
   b) Empty NPs must be deleted at PF.
   c) The traces must be replaced by copies in syntactic theory.
   d) All empty categories are base-generated.

8. X is a blocking category for any Y contained in it if _____
   a) X is a head which does not assign Case.
   b) If X c-commands Y.
   c) If X is a maximal projection not theta-governed by a lexical category (or L-marked).

   d) If X is a maximal projection that theta-governs Y.

9. Statement 1: Within the Barriers Model, a TP (or IP) is a weak barrier. Statement 2: The CP dominating a TP is a barrier by inheritance.
   a) Both 1 and 2 are True.
   b) Both 1 and 2 are False.
   c) Only 1 is true.
   d) Only 2 is True.

10. Agreement in which a verb agrees with a DP that is not its argument is called _____
    a) Exceptional agreement
    b) Adjectival agreement
    c) Long distance agreement
    d) Default agreement

11. In Hindi-Urdu, long-distance agreement can take place between the matrix verb and an embedded object if the embedded clause is _____
    a) Infinitival
    b) Gerundive
    c) Finite
    d) Complex

12. The sentence "Hermione believed that herself is intelligent" because _____
    a) Principle C is violated.
    b) Principle A is violated.
    c) Principle B is violated.
    d) Subjacency condition is violated.

13. Which of the following theoretical options have been proposed by Bhatt to account for long-distance agreement in Hindi-Urdu in his paper titled "Long Distance agreement in Hindi-Urdu"?
    a) Movement of the DP
    b) Feature-percolation
    c) Cyclic Agree
    d) Restructuring

14. The Phase Impenetrability Condition states that_____
    a) A complement of a head H of a phase P is inaccessible for operations in the next phase.
    b) No syntactic object X can penetrate a phase P by moving into P.
    c) A phase P can only be penetrated under certain conditions.
    d) A phase cannot be moved.

15. Which of the following is a property of Indian languages across language-families?
    a) Absence of nominal anaphors
    b) Absence of comparative degree affix
    c) Head-final word order
    d) Phonemic tones

16. According to Boeckx & Grohmann's article "Remarks: putting phases in perspective", one of the following constraints cannot be accounted for by the notion of a Phase:
    a) Cyclic operation of Wh-movement
    b) Movement of an object out of the VP
    c) Superiority effect
    d) Conditions on Extraction Domains

17. Which of the following constraints are NOT about the Locality of movement?
    a) Minimal Link Condition
    b) Attract the closest
    c) Subjacency
    d) PPs are easier domains to extract from than the DPs

18. Which of the following language is an exception to the head-finality of the languages of South Asia?
    a) Khasi
    b) Manipuri
    c) Rabha
    d) Tulu

19. A Negative Polarity Item (NPI) is licensed by
    a) A negator dominating the NPI
    b) A question-tag
    c) A negator c-commanding the NPI

d) A negator preceding the NPI

20. In some of the Indian languages like Telugu, sometimes, a PRO can occur as a subject of the matrix clause and its antecedent in the embedded clause. This type of a construction is called _____
    a) Ungoverned PRO
    b) Arbitrary PRO
    c) Optional Control
    d) Backward Control

21. The T agrees with the subject DP. In a classic Probe-Goal mechanism of Agree, _____
    a) The T head is a Probe while the DP is a Goal.
    b) The T is a Goal and the DP is the Probe.
    c) Both the T and the DP are Probes of Agree.
    d) Both the T and the DP are Goals of the operation Agree.

22. Which of the following is one of the motivations behind introducing the notion of Phase in syntactic theory?
    a) Merge-Over-Move principle
    b) The That-Trace filter
    c) Control Theory
    d) Principles of Binding

23. Which of the following statements about the notion of a Phase is FALSE?
    a) A phase is a PF-isolable object.
    b) The head of a phase has EPP feature on it.
    c) The specifiers of a phase are called Edge of a phase.
    d) A phase is a fossilized constituent that cannot be moved further.

24. Statement 1: TP is not a phase in syntax. Statement 2: That a TP can often stand-alone challenges Statement 1.
    a) Both the statements 1 and 2 are False.
    b) Both the statements 1 and 2 are true.
    c) Only statement 1 is True.
    d) Only statement 2 is True.

25. In the sentence "John himself solved all the problems.", *himself* is
    a) An anaphor
    b) A pronoun
    c) An argument
    d) An emphatic

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