

LING-GA 3320: *Wh*-constructions cross-linguistically

Fall 2017, Mondays & Wednesdays, 2:00–3:15pm, WP 103

Instructor

Hadas Kotek, hadas.kotek@nyu.edu

Office: WP 412

Office hours: Tuesdays 1–3pm and by appointment

Description

This seminar will investigate the syntax/semantics of diverse *wh*-constructions cross-linguistically. The first half or so of the seminar will be devoted to questions, based in part on my forthcoming LI monograph, and providing familiarity with modern analyses of interrogative syntax/semantics. The second part of the seminar will seek to situate the machinery developed in the first part of the seminar in the broader context of other \bar{A} - and scope-taking phenomena, as well as a study of a variety of other *wh*-constructions, including (at least some of) relative clauses and free relatives, *wh*-indefinites, *wh*-quantification, free choice, and *wh*-NPIs.

Website

Handouts and readings will be uploaded to NYU Classes.

Requirements

Requirements for registered students will include:

1. Weekly readings and active participation in class
2. Paper proposal (2 pages double spaced, due November 15)
3. Final paper (15 pages double spaced, due December 15)
4. Final paper presentation (due December 11, 13)

Students should arrange to meet with me about their paper topic before writing up their proposal.

Schedule

The schedule is subject to change. Consult the website.

Most weeks have 1–2 required readings, marked with a *. Additional readings are listed and uploaded to NYU Classes for anyone who wants to delve deeper.

Week	Date	Topic
1	9/6	Overview and background
2	9/11	Typology of <i>wh</i> -syntax: fronting and multiple <i>wh</i> -fronting <i>Reading:</i> Bošković (2002)*, Bošković (2003); Richards (1997); Boeckx (2003); Kuno and Robinson (1972)
2	9/13	Typology of <i>wh</i> -syntax: <i>wh</i> -in-situ, optional fronting, covert fronting <i>Reading:</i> Cheng (2003)*, Cheng (2009); Hagstrom (1998); Aoun and Li (1993); Huang (1982); Tsai (1990)
3	9/18	Semantics 101: the meaning of questions <i>Reading:</i> Hagstrom (2003)*, Hamblin (1973); Karttunen (1977)
	9/20	Interpreting <i>wh</i> -in-situ <i>Reading:</i> Shimoyama (2006)*, Rooth (1985, 1992); Aoun and Li (1993); Pesetsky (1987); Watanabe (1992); Reinhart (1998); Hagstrom (1998)
4	9/25	Families of questions <i>Reading:</i> Dayal (1996) §2.1–2.2*, Büring (2003), Constant (2014); Dayal (2002)
	9/27	No class: Hadas is out of town
5	10/2	The ALTSHIFT operator <i>Reading:</i> Kotek (2017a) Chapter 3*
	10/4	ALTSHIFT and the typology of <i>wh</i> -syntax <i>Reading:</i> Kotek (2017a) Chapter 4*
6	10/9	No class: Fall recess
	10/11	Intervention effects: the basics <i>Reading:</i> Pesetsky (2000) Chapter 5*, Kotek (2017a) Chapter 5*, Kim (2002); Beck (2006)
7	10/16	Intervention effects continued <i>Reading:</i> Kotek (2017b)*
	10/18	Overt vs covert movement and structure building <i>Reading:</i> Kotek (2017a) Chapter 7*

8	10/23	Properties of \bar{A} -movement, diagnosing covert movement <i>Reading:</i> Chomsky (1977)*, Pesetsky (2000); Nissenbaum (2000); Ross (1967); Huang (1982)
	10/25	Specificity, D-linking, <i>what</i> (exactly) vs <i>which</i>
9	10/30	Sluicing <i>Reading:</i> Ross (1969)*, Merchant (2006)*, Merchant (2001)
	11/1	Multiple sluicing <i>Reading:</i> Mizuno and Erlewine (2017)*, Abels and Dayal (2016); Kotek and Barros (To appear); Grebenyova (2007); Lasnik (2006)
10	11/6	<i>Wh</i> -indeterminates <i>Reading:</i> Kratzer and Shimoyama (2002)*, Ramchand (1997)*, Shimoyama (2001, 2006); Kuroda (1965)
	11/8	The typology of <i>wh</i> -indefinites <i>Reading:</i> Uegaki (2017); Haspelmath (2000); Bhat (2000); Giannakidou and Cheng (2006); Cheng and Giannakidou (2013)
11	11/13	Free and headless relatives: Where is the head? <i>Reading:</i> Donati and Cecchetto (2011)*, Citko (2004)*
	11/15	More free relatives <i>Reading:</i> Jacobson (1995); Caponigro (2003) Paper proposals due
12	11/20	Subject/non-subject asymmetries in indefinite free relatives
	11/22	No class: Thanksgiving recess
13	11/27	Pied-piping and Q-morphemes <i>Reading:</i> Cable (2012)*, Cable (2013)*, Heck (2008, 2009); Cable (2010)
	11/29	Covert pied-piping <i>Reading:</i> Kotek and Erlewine (2016)*
14	12/4	Pied-piping in relative clauses <i>Reading:</i> Kotek and Erlewine (2015)*, Erlewine and Kotek (2016)
	12/6	Wrapping up: Can we really have it both ways? <i>Reading:</i> Izvorski (1998)*
15	12/11	Student presentations
	12/13	Student presentations Final papers due

References

- Abels, Klaus, and Veneeta Dayal. 2016. On the syntax of multiple sluicing. Paper presented at NELS 47, UMass Amherst.
- Aoun, Joseph, and Yen-hui Audrey Li. 1993. *Wh*-elements in situ: Syntax or LF? *Linguistic Inquiry* 24:199–238.
- Beck, Sigrid. 2006. Intervention effects follow from focus interpretation. *Natural Language Semantics* 14:1–56.
- Bhat, D.N.S. 2000. The indefinite-interrogative puzzle. *Linguistic Typology* 4:365–400.
- Boeckx, Cedric. 2003. *Multiple wh-fronting*. John Benjamins.
- Bošković, Željko. 2002. On multiple *wh*-fronting. *Linguistic Inquiry* 33:351–383.
- Bošković, Željko. 2003. On the interpretation of multiple questions. *Linguistic Variation Yearbook* 1:1–15.
- Büring, Daniel. 2003. On D-trees, beans, and B-accent. *Linguistics and Philosophy* 26:511–545.
- Cable, Seth. 2010. *The grammar of Q: Q-particles, wh-movement, and pied-piping*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.
- Cable, Seth. 2012. Pied-piping: introducing two recent approaches. *Language and Linguistics Compass* 6:816–832.
- Cable, Seth. 2013. Pied-piping: comparing two recent approaches. *Language and Linguistics Compass* 7:123–140.
- Caponigro, Ivano. 2003. Free not to ask: On the semantics of free relatives and *wh*-words cross-linguistically. Doctoral Dissertation, University of California at Los Angeles.
- Cheng, Lisa Lai-Shen. 2003. *Wh*-in-situ. *Glott International* 7:103–109.
- Cheng, Lisa Lai-Shen. 2009. *Wh*-in-situ from the 1980s to now. *Language and Linguistics Compass* 3:767–791.
- Cheng, Lisa Lai-Shen, and Anastasia Giannakidou. 2013. The non-uniformity of *Wh*-indeterminates with polarity and free choice in Chinese. In *Strategies of quantification, selected papers from the workshop on quantification and crosslinguistic variation*, ed. Georges Tsoulas and Kook-hee Gil. Oxford University Press.
- Chomsky, Noam. 1977. On *Wh*-movement. In *Formal syntax*, ed. Peter Culicover, Thomas Wasow, and Adrian Akmajian, 71–132. New York: Academic Press.
- Citko, Barbara. 2004. On headed, headless, and light-headed relatives. *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory* 22:95–126.
- Constant, Noah. 2014. Contrastive topic: meanings and realizations. Doctoral Dissertation, University of Massachusetts Amherst.
- Dayal, Veneeta. 1996. *Locality in wh quantification*. Kluwer Academic Publishers.
- Dayal, Veneeta. 2002. Single-pair versus multiple-pair answers: *wh*-in-situ and scope. *Linguistic*

- Inquiry* 33:512–520.
- Donati, Caterina, and Carlo Cecchetto. 2011. Relabeling heads: A unified account for relativization structures. *Linguistic Inquiry* 42:519–560.
- Erlewine, Michael Yoshitaka, and Hadas Kotek. 2016. The structure and interpretation of non-restrictive relatives: Evidence from relative pronoun pied-piping. In *Proceedings of CLS 51*, 149–163. Chicago, IL.: Chicago Linguistic Society.
- Giannakidou, Anastasia, and Lisa Lai-Shen Cheng. 2006. (in)definiteness, polarity, and the role of *wh*-morphology in free choice. *Journal of Semantics* 23:135–183.
- Grebenyova, Lydia. 2007. Sluicing in slavic. *Journal of Slavic Linguistics* 15:49–80.
- Hagstrom, Paul. 1998. Decomposing questions. Doctoral Dissertation, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
- Hagstrom, Paul. 2003. What questions mean. *Glott International* 7:188–201.
- Hamblin, Charles. 1973. Questions in Montague English. *Foundations of Language* 10:41–53.
- Haspelmath, Martin. 2000. Coordination. In *Language typology and linguistic description*. Cambridge University Press.
- Heck, Fabian. 2008. *On pied-piping: wh-movement and beyond*. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.
- Heck, Fabian. 2009. On certain properties of pied-piping. *Linguistic Inquiry* 40:75–111.
- Huang, Cheng-Teh James. 1982. Logical relations in Chinese and the theory of grammar. Doctoral Dissertation, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
- Izvorski, Roumyana. 1998. Non-indicative *wh*-complements of existential and possessive predicates. In *Proceedings of NELS 28*, ed. Pius N. Tamanji and Kiyomi Kusumoto, 159–173.
- Jacobson, Pauline. 1995. On the quantificational force of free relatives.
- Karttunen, Lauri. 1977. Syntax and semantics of questions. *Linguistics and Philosophy* 1:3–44.
- Kim, Shin-Sook. 2002. Intervention effects are focus effects. In *Proceedings of Japanese/Korean Linguistics 10*, 615–628.
- Kotek, Hadas. 2017a. Composing questions. Monograph draft.
- Kotek, Hadas. 2017b. Intervention effects arise from scope-taking over alternatives. In *Proceedings of NELS 47*.
- Kotek, Hadas, and Matthew Barros. To appear. Multiple sluicing, scope, and superiority: Consequences for ellipsis identity. *Linguistic Inquiry* .
- Kotek, Hadas, and Michael Yoshitaka Erlewine. 2015. Relative pronoun pied-piping in English non-restrictive relatives. Manuscript, McGill University and National University of Singapore.
- Kotek, Hadas, and Michael Yoshitaka Erlewine. 2016. Covert pied-piping in English multiple *wh*-questions. *Linguistic Inquiry* 47:669–693.
- Kratzer, Angelika, and Junko Shimoyama. 2002. Indeterminate pronouns: the view from Japanese. In *Proceedings of the 3rd Tokyo conference on psycholinguistics*, 1–25.
- Kuno, Susumu, and Jane J. Robinson. 1972. Multiple *wh* questions. *Linguistic Inquiry* 3.

- Kuroda, Sige-Yuki. 1965. Generative grammatical studies in the Japanese language. Doctoral Dissertation, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
- Lasnik, Howard. 2006. Multiple sluicing in English. Ms. University of Maryland, College Park.
- Merchant, Jason. 2001. *The syntax of silence*. Oxford University Press.
- Merchant, Jason. 2006. Sluicing. In *The syntax companion*, ed. Martin Everaert and Henk van Riemsdijk, 269–289. Blackwell.
- Mizuno, Teruyuki, and Michael Yoshitaka Erlewine. 2017. Constraints on contrast sluicing. In *Proceedings of Japanese/Korean Linguistics 24*, ed. Shigeto Kawahara and Chris Tancredi. CSLI Publications.
- Nissenbaum, Jon. 2000. Investigations of covert phrase movement. Doctoral Dissertation, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
- Pesetsky, David. 1987. *Wh-in-situ: movement and unselective binding*. In *The representation of (in)definiteness*. MIT Press.
- Pesetsky, David. 2000. *Phrasal movement and its kin*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.
- Ramchand, Gillian. 1997. Questions, polarity and alternative semantics. In *Proceedings of NELS 27*, 383–396.
- Reinhart, Tanya. 1998. *Wh-in-situ in the framework of the Minimalist Program*. *Natural Language Semantics* 6:29–56.
- Richards, Norvin. 1997. What moves where when in which language? Doctoral Dissertation, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
- Rooth, Mats. 1985. Association with focus. Doctoral Dissertation, University of Massachusetts, Amherst.
- Rooth, Mats. 1992. A theory of focus interpretation. *Natural Language Semantics* 1:75–116.
- Ross, John Robert. 1967. Constraints on variables in syntax. Doctoral Dissertation, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
- Ross, John Robert. 1969. Guess who? In *Proceedings of CLS 5*, ed. Robert I. Binnick, Alice Davison, Georgia M. Green, and Jerry L. Morgan, 252–286. Chicago: Chicago Linguistic Society.
- Shimoyama, Junko. 2001. *Wh-constructions in Japanese*. Doctoral Dissertation, University of Massachusetts Amherst.
- Shimoyama, Junko. 2006. Indeterminate quantification in Japanese. *Natural Language Semantics* 14:139–173.
- Tsai, Ching-yuan Kenneth. 1990. Studies on interrogatives in Chinese. Doctoral Dissertation, University of Hawai'i.
- Uegaki, Wataru. 2017. A unified semantics for the Japanese Q-particle *ka* in indefinites, questions and disjunctions. Manuscript, Leiden University.
- Watanabe, Akira. 1992. *Wh-in-situ, subjacency, and chain formation*. *MIT Occasional Papers in Linguistics* 2.