Problem Set #3   **Due Friday, April 2**

Part 1
The following two sentences have different syntactic structures:

(1)   The men will sit on the chairs.
(2)   The women will turn on the lights.

Suggest syntactic structures for the two sentences. Use at least two constituency tests to argue that the two have different structures.

Part 2
Draw three diagrams for the following sentence, without using triangles (treat *his* as a Det):

(3)   Mary hit the clown with the banana on his head

Explain how your diagrams differ in meaning. Use constituency tests to show that one of your trees has the meaning you attribute to it.

Part 3
Consider the following sentences in Zazaki, an Indo-Iranian language spoken by Kurds in Turkey:

(4)   a.   tʃɛnɛkɛ mɨ re ʃanikɛ vatɛ
                girl   me to story   told
                'The girl told a story to me'

        b.   ɛz boston de ra
                I   Boston in am
                'I am in Boston'

        c.   lajiki non pot
                boy   bread baked
                'The boy baked the bread'

        d.   meriki dɛwɛ di   bi
                man   camel seen had
                'The man had seen the camel'

Is this language head-initial, or head-final? Give as many specific arguments for your conclusion as you can.

<u>**Part 4**</u>
Give D-structures and S-structures for the following sentences. If there is movement involved,
what type of movement is it?

(5)   a.   I am surrounded.
          b.   How can I escape?
          c.   Should I take the red pill?
          d.   Why do my eyes hurt?

<u>**Fieldwork**</u>
Give at least ten sentences from your language which are intended to illustrate the basic word
order, and write phrase structure rules for your language that give the word order of the
sentences you discuss (write category-specific rules at first, without using X-bar theory. You
should choose sentences that allow you to write rules for as many different categories as possible
(so, try to include the various types of categories we've discussed). Then answer the following
questions:

(i) Is your language head-initial, or head-final (or mixed)?

(ii) If we wanted to collapse your phrase structure rules into a single X-bar schema for your
language, would this be possible? If not, why not? If so, what would it look like?