SOLUTION EXAM 2004-2005.

- **Section A - Phrasal Constituency and Thematic Assignment.**

Answer ALL questions (1, 2, 3). *(Questions 1-3 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: John <u>likes Mary</u>.	-	*Yes*	*VP*	*like*
E.g.2: The <u>dog bit</u> a cat.	*No*	-	-	-
a. They have always <u>visited Rome</u>.	___	Yes	VP	visited
b. They have <u>always visited Rome</u>.	___	Yes	VP	visited
c. <u>They have always visited</u> Rome.	No	___	___	_____
d. We arrived <u>from Italy</u> by train.	___	Yes	PP	from

Note: to answer the above question, first draw the tree-structure representation of the sentence and then determine whether there is a phrasal node XP that dominates ALL and ONLY the underlined word.

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, PP, VP, and IP.

	NO:	YES:	Category:	Head:
E.g.1: Gli uomini <u>hanno sempre bevuto vino</u>.	___	*Yes*	*IP*	*hanno*
E.g.2: Gli uomini <u>hanno sempre</u> bevuto vino.	*No*	___	___	_____
a. Gianni è <u>orgoglioso di sua figlia</u>.	___	Yes	AP	orgoglioso
b. <u>Gianni è orgoglioso</u> di sua figlia.	No	___	___	_____
c. <u>Arrivare sempre in orario non è facile</u>.	___	___	IP	è
d. I bambini hanno mangiato <u>tutti pollo</u>.	___	___	VP	verbal trace

Note: In (c), 'arrivare sempre in orario' is a sentential subject within the IP '<subject> non è facile'. In (d), the verb has moved from VP to the past-participle projection, but note that 'tutti' remains stranded in specVP, preceding the object. The head of the VP is thus the trace of the moved verb.

3. Determine whether the *underlined* expression in the following FOUR sentences is an *argument* of one of the available verbs or simply an *adjunct*, as in the examples given. Pay attention to any potential movement operation displacing arguments from their base-generated position.

	An argument:	An adjunct:
E.g.1 : I never eat <u>frozen beans</u> in the morning.	*Yes*	
E.g.2 : I never eat frozen beans <u>in the morning</u>.		*Yes*
a. We do not like <u>this restaurant</u>.	YES	____
b. We do not like to eat <u>in this restaurant</u>.	____	YES
c. <u>The wedding date</u> has been chosen by Mark.	YES	____
d. I visit my parents <u>every Friday</u>.	____	YES

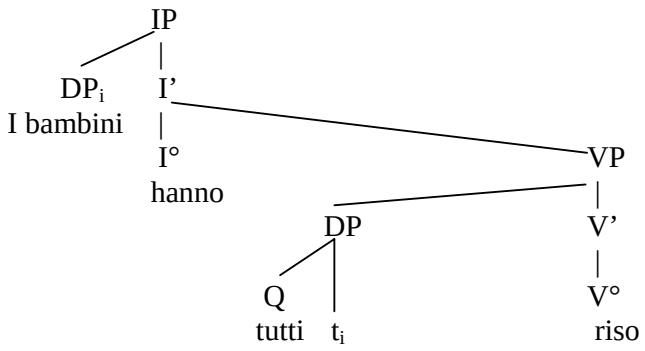
- **Section B - Syntactic Movement.** Answer ALL questions (4, 5, and 6) in the answer book.

4. Provide the syntactic tree-structure representation for EITHER sentence (a) OR sentence (b) below. You may restrict your phrasal categories to DP, NP, VP, IP, and Past-ParticipleP (PPP). You can 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. I bambini hanno tutti riso.

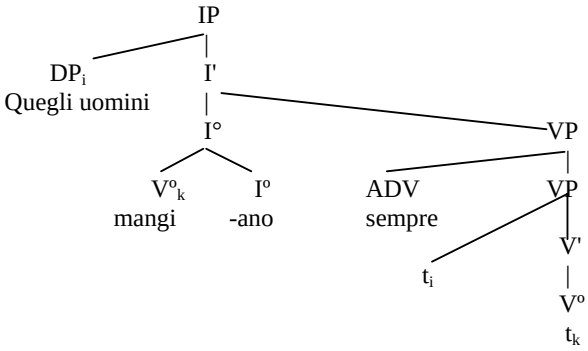
   b. Quegli uomini mangiano sempre.

Sentence (a)



Note: since nothing intervenes between the past-participle and the verbal projection, it is fine to collapse both projections into VP as I did here.

Sentence (b):

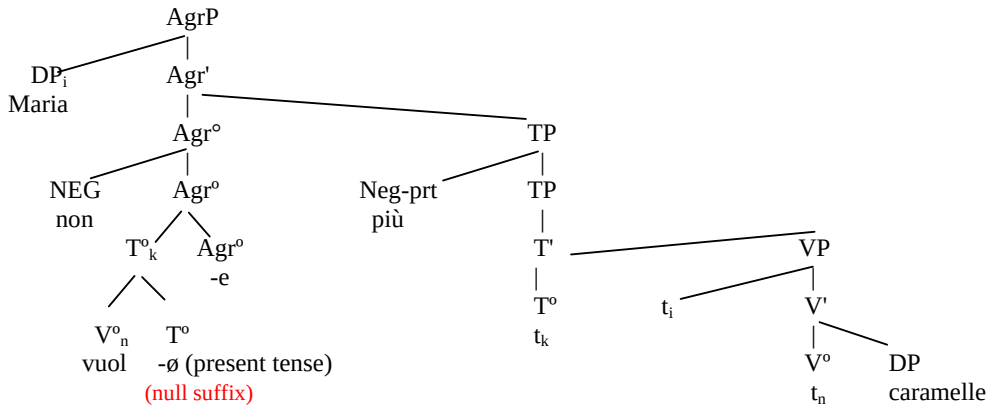


5. Provide the syntactic tree-structure representation for EITHER the Italian sentence in (a) OR the English sentence in (b) below.
   This exercise concerns the 'split-Infl hypothesis': you MUST use the phrasal categories AgrP and TP and clearly indicate the content of their head. Use these categories together with the usual categories NP, DP, PP, and VP. You may analyse the neg-markers '*non*', '*not*' as Neg (for 'negation') and the particle '*più*' as a neg-particle analogous to '*mica*'.
   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.

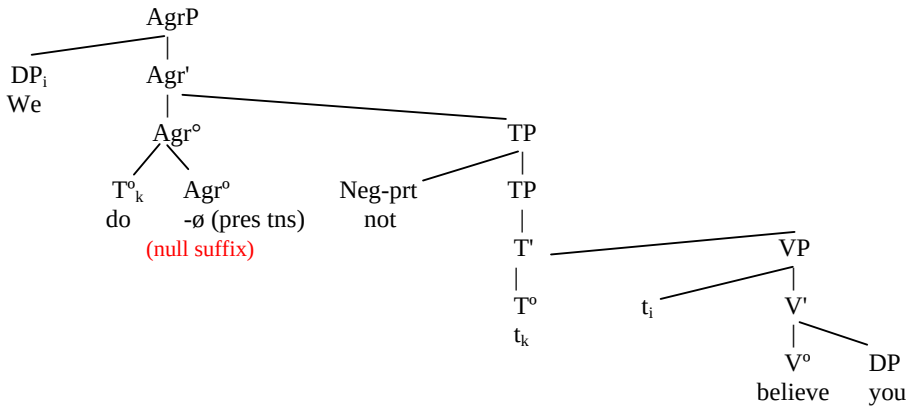
   a. Maria non vuole più caramelle.

   b. We do not believe you.

Sentence (a)



Sentence (b)

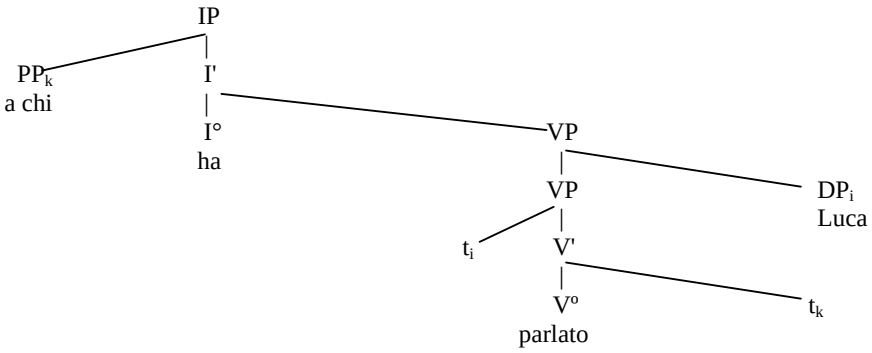


6. Provide the syntactic tree-structure representation for EITHER the Italian sentence in (a) OR the English sentence in (b) below. The Italian sentence involves a contrastively focused interpretation for the subject, i.e. the speaker is asking to whom did *Luca* speak rather than -say- to whom did *Mary* speak.
   You may restrict your phrasal categories to DP, PP, VP, IP, and CP. You may also analyse the interrogative operators '*Chi*' and '*What*' as DPs. 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.

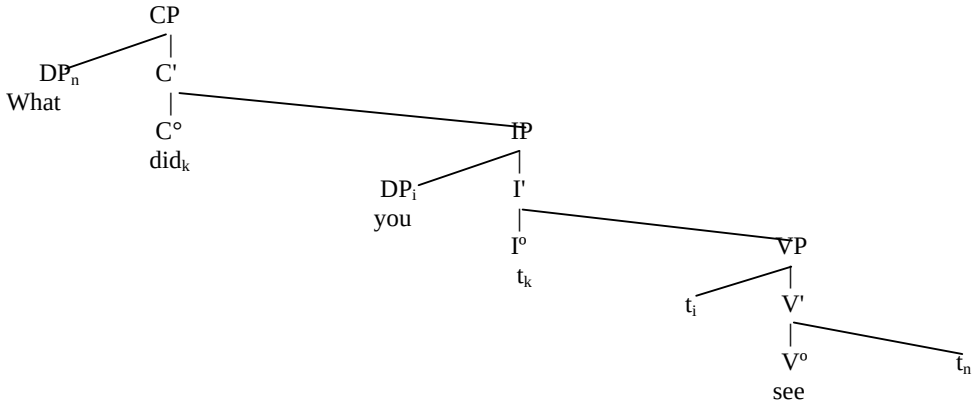
   a. A chi ha parlato [Luca]$_{focus}$?

   b. What did you see?

Sentence (a)



Sentence (b)

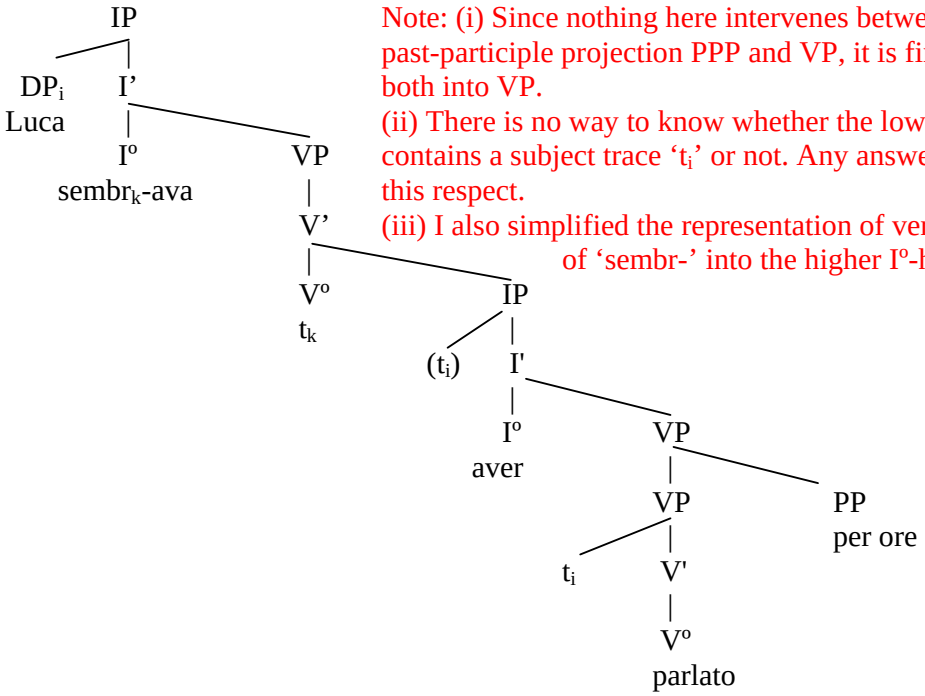


- **Section C - Passives, Ergatives, and Raising Structures.**

Answer BOTH questions (7 and 8) in the answer 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.

7. Provide the appropriate syntactic tree-structure representation for the sentence in (a) below. You may restrict your phrasal categories to NP, DP, PP, VP, and IP. You may use PPP to represent past-participles.

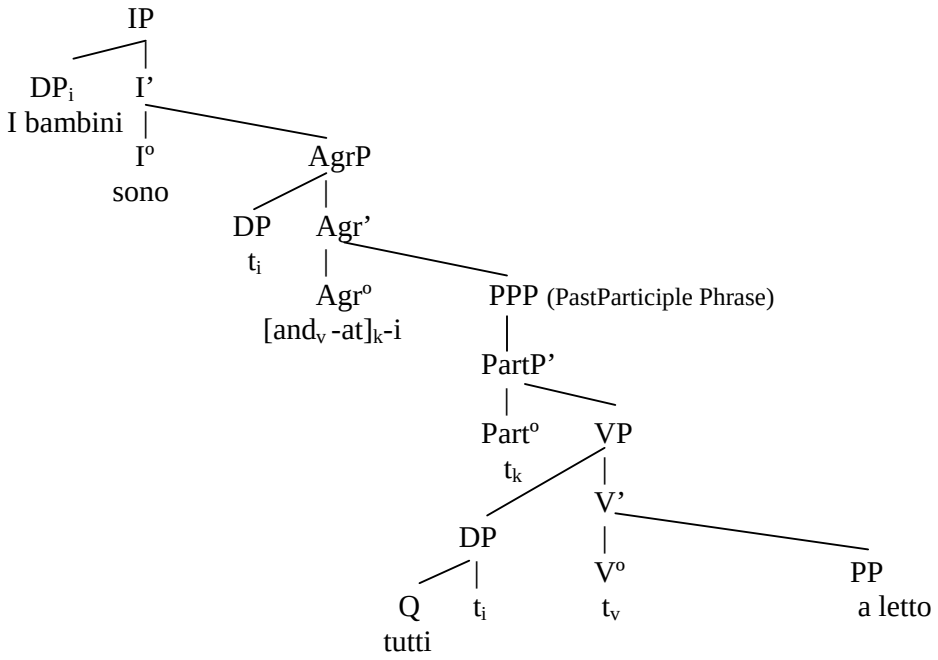
a. *Luca sembrava aver parlato per ore.*



Note: (i) Since nothing here intervenes between the past-participle projection PPP and VP, it is fine to collapse both into VP.
(ii) There is no way to know whether the lower SpecIP contains a subject trace 't_i' or not. Any answer is fine in this respect.
(iii) I also simplified the representation of verb movement of 'sembr-' into the higher I°-head.

8. Provide the appropriate syntactic tree-structure representation for the sentence in (a) below. You may restrict your phrasal categories to NP, DP, PP, VP, and IP. You may use PPP to represent past-participles, and the label Q for the quantifier *'tutti'*.

a. *I bambini sono andati tutti a letto.*



(i) 'Andare' takes 'essere' and is an unaccusative (or ergative) verb, hence its subject is generated in object position.
(ii) I distinguished the PastParticiple phrase from the agreement phrase AgrP above it typical of passives and unaccusative verbs. Collapsing them into a single PPP projection is fine too, so long this collapsed projection is distinguished from VP (since there is no theta-marking going on in PPP/AgrP).
(iii) Here I chose a simpler representation for the final head-complex in Agr^o determined by the head-movement of V^o into T^o and then of T^o into I^o. If you prefer to use the more complex version showing all the adjoined heads (shown in solution (5a) above) that's fine too.
(iv) Since there is agreement on 'andat-i', there certainly is a trace in SpecAgrP, as shown above. There is no way to know whether the subject has also left a trace into SpecPPP on its way up. Likewise, there is no way to know whether 'tutti' is stranded in specVP, as shown above, or in specPPP. Once again any of these answers is fine here. In general, any answer consistent with the specific example at hand and our general knowledge of the properties of clauses is fine.

Section D - Case-theory and Null-subjects.

Answer BOTH questions (9 and 10).

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

	Case-assigning head	Category
E.g.: John likes **Mary**.	*like*	V^o
a. Abbiamo regalato tutti i soldi a **Gianni.**	*a*	P^o
b. **Maria** sembra sempre più stanca.	*sembr-**a***	I^o
c. I hope that **she** will win.	*will*	I^o
d. **John** was believed to have survived the earthquake.	*was*	I^o

10. Answer this question in the answer book. Consider the grammatical sentence in (a) below, involving a finite embedded clause, and the corresponding ungrammatical sentence in (b), involving a non-finite clausal complement. Explain what condition on expletive null subjects is satisfied in (a) but failed in (b).

    a. Noi vogliamo che nevichi.
    We want that snow
    'We wish for it to snow'

    b. * Noi vogliamo nevicare.
    We want to-snow
    'We wish for it to snow'

Solution:
'Nevicare' is a weather verb that assigns no theta-role to its subject. Hence the subject of 'nevicare' in (a) and (b) is pro_{expl}. As we know, null expletive subjects must be case-marked.
- In (a), the subordinate clause 'che nevichi' is finite. Therefore its I^o (i.e. the finite inflection '–i' in 'nevichi') assigns nominative case to its pro_{expl} subject, satisfying the above condition.
- In (b), the subordinate clause 'nevicare' is non-finite, hence unable to assign case to its subject. This leaves pro_{exp} unlicensed with respect to case-marking, and consequently makes the entire sentence ungrammatical.

END OF PAPER