Answers to exercises

Chapter 1

A Of the three descriptive parameters, Lucy has probably set the `move-wh` parameter, but not yet the `pro-drop` one. We don’t have evidence for headedness.

B The word order is OV, so head-final. A translation is hard because we don’t know how Hopi marks definiteness, so it could be ‘I saw the eagle’ or ‘I saw an eagle’. Kalectaca (1978) translates objects like these as definite. To determine the OV order, this information is not necessary, however.

C In (3), the subject is feminine and that’s why the participle likhtii is marked feminine; a masculine subject would have caused it to appear as likhtaa. The auxiliary agrees in number and person.

D Hopi, according to Kalectaca (1978: 24), can leave subject pronouns out.

E One aspect shown here is the creative, unlimited use.

Chapter 2

A Lexical verbs: approved, put, hope, advance, provide, installed, breaking, provide, and said. Prepositions: with, on, as, of, through, by, on, on, of, and to.

B Complementizers/subordinating conjunctions: that (l. 2) and which (l. 5).

Coordinators/coordinating conjunctions: various instances of and. Adverbs: recently, just, recently, just, now, and (about).

C Finite verbs: approved, will, hope, will, installed, are, will, and said.

D Depending on the language you choose, it may be that there are few(er) determiners and pre/postpositions than in English.

Chapter 3

A It is a VP; one can replace it by do so and move it to the left of the sentence. Note that to is a T and therefore outside of the VP.

B When you read the first line you think that the speaker was wearing pajamas, but the second line makes that reading impossible and you have to rethink the sentence. Now,
there are two interpretations left: (a) the elephant was wearing the pajamas of the speaker while being shot and (b) the elephant was shot inside the pajamas.

C In (3a), the elephant is wearing the pajamas and, in (3b), the elephant is shot inside the pajamas or the speaker is wearing them.

D I leave the DP out in (4) and English in (5) is ambiguous.

(4) NP (5) CP

AP N’ Where C’

Canadian

N PP C TP

students did DP T’

P NP DP T

of English did did

D NP T VP

the A N V’ AP

A student V where

live

E The negative not can be in many places but it will always c-command any. A tree with not as adverb is given in (6). In chapter 5, we’ll do a different tree, but not will still c-command the polarity item.

(6) TP

He T’

T VP

will AP VP
Adverbials in the easier text: during the prolonged SW drought, right now, and decades into the future.

Objects: to have … security, a sunny outlook on water security, a sprawling Sun Belt metropolis, and millions of newcomers. It is possible to see continues as an auxiliary in which case to have... is the main verb and not an object.

Adverbials in the harder text: by forging ... alliances, to get ... books, to making ... bearable, and to earn ... appreciated.

Objects: its complex politics, their way, machiavellian alliances, candy, the tea, office life, and the respect of your colleagues.

Chapter 4

A An example of a transitive verb in German would be essen `eat’ and schicken `send’.

B This question may become a homework assignment and therefore no answer will be provided.

C I have bolded the lexical verbs and bracketed the Themes. I have ignored copula verbs and sentences without verbs.

Palaeontologists re-examined [a 200-million-year-old fossil from Greenland], reigniting [debate about the origins of mammals]. How old are you? What if, when someone asked you [this question], you answered [with the age of all humans]? [2.3 million years], you would say. What about all primates? Around 80 million years old. If you wanted [to answer for the whole of mammal-kind], you’d find [the answer depends [who you ask]]. In November a new paper came out that stirred [an ongoing debate among palaeontologists working [on the first mammals and their close relatives]]. Early-
mammal expert Professor Zhe-Xi Luo, from the University of Chicago, led a team reanalysing the fossil of a mouse-sized creature called Haramiyavia clemensi using [CT-scans]]. They found anatomical details that appear to push [this little beastie] out of the bushy crown of the mammalian tree, relegating [it] to the side branches. This has [big implications for the age of all mammals].

D The children are using unaccusatives as causatives, moving a verb like go from V to v. Certain unaccusatives cannot move in this way while others like roll can. This difference is something idiosyncratic that has to be learned about these verbs.

E Both verbs are durative and their trees are as in (1) and (2).

(1)  
TP
   /  
   /   
  DP  T’
  /  
 /   
/    
D N T VP

the children were
   /  
   /   
  DP  V’
  /  
  /   
 the children
   /  
   /   
 V  DP
   /  
  /   
 painting
d N
 Ø elephants

(2)  
TP
   /  
   /   
  DP  T’
  /  
 /   
/    
They
   /  
   /   
 T  VP
   /  
   /   
  DP  V’
  /  
  /   
 they
(6) is an unaccusative, so I will just draw the VP but (7) needs a vP and VP.

(8) is again unaccusative and (9) causative, so their trees are like (6) and (7) respectively. (10) is like (9).
the pool filled

P DP/NP

with water

G I wanted PRO to visit Timbuktoo; PRO to be or PRO not to be is the question.

H The adjective *cute* is here being used as a verb. Being cute will cause to get him out.