FIRST TERM

1. Do only verbs assign theta roles? Provide some examples to illustrate your opinion.

2. What can you tell me about the Pro-drop parameters?

3. Analyse the following example: is it (un)grammatical? Comment on the role of *there* in the sentence:

   There occurred three accidents after lunch.

SECOND TERM

1. Analyse the following sentences (remember that the use of tree diagrams is voluntary):
   a) Poirot preferred to be an excellent teacher rather than a brilliant doctor.
   b) Poirot turned out to be an excellent teacher rather than a brilliant doctor.
   c) Poirot was liable to be an excellent teacher rather than a brilliant doctor.

2. Are the following sentences (un)grammatical? Explain why:
   a) I consider very much him to be a good candidate.
   b) Miss Marple surely gave her pipe to Janvier.

3. What is exceptional about this sentence?

   For him to have agreed to the proposal is surprising.
4. Try to rescue these examples using what you know about Case Theory and/or c-command domains:

a) *Your parents to come to my wedding would be a smart move.
b) *Mary's concern him.
c) *Poirot travelled John and me.
d) *Patrick should wash themselves every day.

5. Look at the following sentence: “My grandmother believed my boyfriend to be a liar”:

a) Is the sentence grammatical or ungrammatical? Why?
b) Now look at the second part of the sentence: [my boyfriend to be a liar]: is it a CP or an IP? Why?

6. Analyse the following sentence using as much theoretical support as you can:

He was fascinated by everything.
FIRST TERM

1. Not all verbs can assign theta roles:
   - "No FH, TH"

2. In the example: "He threw a ball to the window." the preposition to occupies the role of goal.
   - "He threw a ball to the window." is an example.
   - "He came from Paris." is an example.

3. In the example: "The knife was in the box." the location is the role of source.
   - "The knife was in the box." is an example.

4. More examples:
   - "The cake was on the table." and "He bought a car for $10,000." are examples.

5. Pro-drop languages do not allow a subject pronoun to be omitted. In Spanish, we cannot omit a noun or whatever.
   - "In English, we always have a subject, otherwise, the sentence would be ungrammatical. If we are going to write a sentence which acts as a subject, we will have to insert a word which acts as a subject. For instance:"

6. "If I were you, I would get a lawyer."

7. "Self-He/She."
As we have seen in the example before, in Spanish, it is not necessary to have a subject (it is implicit). It is called in English 'expected there' when we use it to form the subject.

- Principle of economy: All these [I have been talking about is projected in this principle of economy] which says that Spanish language is much richer than English language so we can omit many words in Spanish, and the sentence will still have sense, it would be grammatical. Moreover, Spanish language is rich in writing and oral skills, so it is a big difference from English.

In English we have a structure which is SVO and it has to be correctly done. This is what projection principle says. In English, there have to be a subject + verb + object (complements are obligatory or not depending on the verb and context). Agreement and pro-drop.

In literature we can prove that agreement is very important.

3. There occurred three accidents after lunch -

It is a grammatical sentence. The word 'there' has been inserted to rescue the sentence and acts as the subject (Agent role) to NP.

There occurred three accidents after lunch.
Second Term

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1) Poizot preferred to be an excellent teacher rather than a brilliant doctor.

It is a grammatical sentence. The projection principle and the case filter are not violated because it has a subject and every NP is a case. The part of the sentence 'to be an excellent teacher rather than a brilliant doctor' has the accusative case, assigned by the verb (inflected verb) 'preferred'. There is a PRO between 'than' and 'a brilliant...', because otherwise 'Poizot preferred to be' would have to be repeated. There is a to+infinitive which does not assign case cause it can't. The PRO does not have case neither.

The verb C−commands the rest of the sentence.
(prefer)
b) Poivet turned out to be an excellent teacher rather than a brilliant doctor.

It is a grammatical sentence in which the projection principle is not violated (Poivet → Subject) and the case filter is assign (each NP has a case). It belongs to the 3rd group of Raising Predicates (verb → turn to).

The verb 'turned out' assigns accusative case to the rest. As in the previous example, there is a PRO?

Subject → to → subject?

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2. Grammatical or ungrammatical?

a) I consider very much him to be a good candidate.

It is ungrammatical because the case filter is violated. In this example, 'him' does not have a case because 'much' and 'to + infinitive' are not case assigners, so it is not correct or grammatical. The verb 'consider' could assign case, if there is something blocking it ('very much') -> Adjacency.

b) Miss Marple surely gave her pipe to Javert.

In this case, the sentence is grammatical because there is nothing blocking the case filter. The verb 'gave' is the case assigner, and 'her' would receive the case of DO.

3. For him (to have agreed to the proposal) is surprising.

The clause between brackets would be the subject, because the concordance with the verb 'For him' is a coupling. In this case (exception: case marking), the sentence begins with a preposition 'For him'. It is correct and grammatical because 'For' can assign case so it rescue the sentence. Otherwise, if we say: 'Him to have... ', would be ungrammatical.
Your parents to come to my wedding would be a smart move.

If we introduce the preposition 'for', it would be grammatically correct.

Mary's concern him.

Mary's what concern him.

Poirot travelled John and me.

Patrick should wash themselves every day.

"I can't rescue it!"
5 "My grandmother believed my boyfriend to be a liar.

a) It is grammatical because Projection Principle and Case Filter are not violated. The inflected verb 'believed' is the case assigner of 'my boyfriend'.

b) [my boyfriend to be a liar] (FM)

This is a CP. Why? Firstly, because the verb is not inflected (it is a to + infinitive). And secondly, because we can say "My grandmother believed that my boyfriend is a liar."

6 "He was fascinated by everything."

This is a grammatical sentence. It belongs to the 4th case of raising predicates (passive sentence)? The projection principle and the Case Filter are not violated, otherwise, the sentence would be ungrammatical.

We can say that there is 'abstract case' because if we see the pronoun 'He', we think that it is nominative in an active sentence. We use 'he' because it is a passive. If we see the deep structure, we can see all the movements in this kind of sentences: (arbólito detalles)
The verb 'fascinate' C-commands 'him'. There is nothing blocking them (Adjacency), so it governs it as well.

At the same time, the verb C-commands the PP, but it does not govern it because there is a barrier blocking them (him).