Elizabeth Coppock
coppock@phil.hhu.de
Due: Tues. Nov. 18th, 2011

Homework 4: *Fact* by Kiparsky and Kiparsky (1970)

1. Give one example of each of the following:

   (a) A factive adjective

   (b) A non-factive adjective

   (c) A factive verb (or verbal complex, like *amuses me*)

   (d) A non-factive verb (or verbal complex)

2. For each of the words you identified in the previous question, give an example sentence of the following form:

   > It (is) [PREDICATE] that [CLAUSE]

   where PREDICATE is the factive or non-factive predicate you identified (add *is* for adjectives), and CLAUSE is presupposed in the case of factive predicates, and not presupposed in the case of non-factive predicates.

3. For each of the four sentences in the previous example, convert the sentences into a new sentence in which:

   (a) In the subject position, in place of *it*, there is a noun phrase consisting of the noun *fact* followed by the clause.

   (b) In the subject position, in place of *it*, there is a gerund version of the clause (e.g. *John died of cancer last week* → *John's having died of cancer last week*).

   (c) The subject of the sentence is the subject of CLAUSE, and CLAUSE is converted into an infinitive phrase. (The subject of the complement clause is 'raised' into the main clause.)

   (d) CLAUSE replaces *it* as the subject. (In the original sentence you constructed, the clause is extraposed; so in this exercise you are 'de-extraposing' the clause, so to speak.)

   and put stars (asterisks) before the sentences that would be ungrammatical according to what Kiparsky and Kiparsky say.

4. Give one example of both of the following:

   (a) A factive verb that takes a sentential object clause

   (b) A non-factive verb that takes a sentential object clause

5. With both of these verbs, construct an example of the form:

<div align="center">[SUBJECT] [VERB] that [CLAUSE]</div>

where VERB is the verb you identified in the previous example, SUBJECT can be any noun phrase that makes sense, and CLAUSE is presupposed by the factive verb and not presupposed by the non-factive verb. The sentence can be in any tense, and you can feel free to add modals like *have to* (as in K&K's examples on p. 347).

6. Convert both of those examples into new examples in which:

   - '*that* [CLAUSE]' is replaced by '*the fact that* CLAUSE'
   - '*that* [CLAUSE]' is replaced by a gerund expressing the same content
   - The subject of CLAUSE is the object of VERB, and CLAUSE is converted into an infinitive phrase ("the accusative and infinitive construction"; cf. p. 348).

   and put stars before the sentences that should be ungrammatical according to what K&K say.

7. K&K say, roughly, that "X cleaned Y" implies that "X caused Y to become clean", and "Y became clean" presupposes "until Y became clean, Y was not clean". So, "X cleaned Y" presupposes "until Y became clean, Y was not clean", hence "Y was not clean in the past". They argue for this using the negation test: *Mary didn't clean the room* also implies that the room was not clean in the past. They also apply the negation test to the factive predicates *odd* and *regret* on p. 351. For each of the sentences you constructed in examples 2 and 5, (i) construct the negation, and (ii) say whether the negated version presupposes (or should presuppose) anything and what it presupposes (or should presuppose) if so.

8. On pp. 354–5 under point (5), K&K sketch a simple (but incorrect) solution to what would later be called "the projection problem". The projection problem is the problem of determining, given a sentence containing other sentences, which of the presuppositions of the embedded sentence will also be carried by the main sentence. Their hypothesis can be stated as follows: *For all P, if a clause C_1 contains another clause C_2, and C_2 presupposes P, then C_1 also presupposes P.* For example:

   C_1 = John appears to regret evicting his grandmother.
   C_2 = [John] to regret evicting his grandmother
   P = [John] evicting his grandmother [the content of "the complement of the embedded factive verb *regret*" (p. 355)]

   C_2 presupposes P, so C_1 also presupposes P.

   This example illustrates at the very least that presuppositions project across *appear*. For both of your examples using object clauses (question 5), construct a new example with the same content embedded under *appear*, and say what the *appear* example presupposes, if anything.