**Constituent tests**

1. **Identifying structural units**
   1. Substitution (proforms)

(i) replacing nominal constituents

(1) a the woman who stole the diamonds will meet the barrister

b *she* will meet *him*

c \*the she who stole the diamonds will meet the he who represents her

(2) a the thieves in masks left the diamonds in a safety deposit box at the airport

b *they* left *them* *there*

c *they* left *them* in *there*

d which small safety deposit box? the *one* at the airport or the *one* in the city centre?

(ii) replacing verbal constituents

(3) a the thieves will steal the diamonds at midnight on Tuesday and the policemen will *do so too*

b the thieves will steal the diamonds at midnight on Tuesday and the policemen will *do so* on Wednesday

c the thieves will steal the diamonds at midnight on Tuesday and the policemen will *do so* at noon on Wednesday

d \*the thieves will steal the diamonds at midnight on Tuesday and the policemen will *do so* the jewels at noon on Wednesday

(iii) replacing adjectival constituents

(4) a Otto was very jealous of Wanda but Archie was less *so*

b Otto was very jealous of Wanda and so was Archie

(iv) replacing sentences

(5) a Wanda stole the diamonds but the police didn’t know it

b He stole the diamonds – I don’t think so

c She stole the diamonds but they didn’t know that.

* 1. Coordination (and, or, but)

(6) a The girl and the boy met

b The story was rather bizarre and totally absurd

c They went home and they cooked dinner

d Wanda and Otto kept their answers and comments brief and to the point

* 1. Movement

1. topicalisation

topic: the element that does not carry new information

(7) a Otto, Archie does not fear

b the man with the gun, Archie doesn’t fear

1. VP-fronting

(8) Wanda shouldn’t steal the diamonds but steal the diamonds she will

(iii) question formation (yes-no interrogatives and wh-questions): subject-auxiliary and question words (interrogative pronouns)

(iv) extraposition

(9) a That Mary left surprised us

b It surprised us that Mary left

c A man came who said he was from the bank

d a ban was introduced on discussions of political and religious issues at schools

e A campaign was launched for reducing the amount of plastic people use.

(v) clefting and pseudo-clefting

(10) a Peter put the book on the table

b It was Peter who/that put the book on the table

c It was on the table that Peter put the book

d It was the book that Peter put on the table

e \*It was really beautiful that she seemed

(11) a What he did was put the book on the table

b Put the book on the table was what he did

c What he should have done is put the book on the table

d Put the book on the table is what he should have done