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## La leçon se déroule en anglais. Elle est suivie d'un entretien en français.

## SUBJECT:

"There are essentially two types of data to consider to determine whether VP-ellipsis is resolved at the level of syntax or semantics. The first type includes examples for which a suitable semantic representation for the source is available for resolution, but for which there is a mismatch of surface-syntactic form between the source and target syntactic representations. In such cases, syntactic approaches are supported if ellipsis shows a sensitivity to syntactic form, as this difference should not be manifest at the level of semantic representation. Conversely, an apparent lack of such sensitivity would provide evidence for semantic approaches."

Kehler, Andrew. 2002. *Coherence, Reference, and the Theory of Grammar.* Stanford: CSLI publications, p. 52

Discuss.

Candidates will use relevant excerpts from the following corpus to address the above topic.

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### Excerpt 1

A: "One sits here..." B: "Yes." A: "and expects to be visited." B: "Of course, yes." A: "Yes, yes." B: "And then, in the end, of course, people always do."

London Lund Corpus of Spoken English

## Excerpt 2

"Won't you at least take off that mask while we're talking? So I can see you?" "See me stutter, do vou mean?"

"Well, I don't know if wearing that is what accounts for the disappearance of your stutter or not. You tell me that it has. You tell me that the stutter was only your way of doing no violence to the air and the things that live in the air... is that correct? Have I understood what you were saying?"

Philip Roth, American Pastoral, 1997

## Excerpt 3

Klaas: "Certainly, Ernie and his group are in a much better position to be forcefully advocating on behalf of this issue than I am but let's join forces. Let's do it." Anderson: "Ernie, have you heard of anyone advocating for this?" Ernie: "Anderson, there are. I think The New York Times article struck a chord. People across the nation, people in Congress thought this just defies common sense."

Anderson Cooper, 2010, COCA - Spoken section

## Excerpt 4

### [Title of post:] New York Times headline editor fails to

## On the eve of the Iowa caucuses, with the state's Republican voters set to pick which member of the assholocracy they'd like to see take on Barack Obama, the New York Times runs the following headline: Iowa, the Early Decider, Still Hasn't

http://languagepolitics.org/archives/, 2012

## Excerpt 5

They did not see the baby, but the sounds seemed to be coming from a blanket in the corner. Kate started toward it, but Marek held her back. "Don't." They continued on.

Michael Crichton, Timeline, 1999

## Excerpt 6

A lot of this material can be presented in a fairly informal and accessible fashion, and often I do. Noam Chomsky on the Generative Enterprise, 1982. Cited in Dalrymple et al. 1991.

## Excerpt 7

"What the hell is this?" Chris said, very annoyed. He spoke loudly. "You don't think I can do this myself?" "No, I don't."

Michael Crichton, Timeline, 1999

## Excerpt 8

David Begelman is a great laugher, and when he does, his eyes crinkle at you the way Lady Brett's did in The Sun Also Rises.

Julia Philips, You'll Never Eat Lunch in This Town Again, 1991

#### Excerpt 9

He [=Marek] led them through several rooms of casks, moving without hesitation. Following him, Kate said, "Do you know where you're going?"

"Don't you?" he said.

But she didn't; she and Chris stayed close behind Marek, wanting to be in the comforting circle of light from the torch.

Michael Crichton, Timeline, 1999

## Excerpt 10

Of course, attending a specific school, or an MFA program in general, does not dictate a novelist's methods or subjects. And it should be noted, as McGurl does, that one of the most consistent and typical products of the MFA system has been the standard collection of contemporary, semi-autobiographical short stories, like Orringer's How to Breathe Underwater, that requires very little research into anything but one's own navel.

http://www.tabletmag.com/jewish-arts-and-culture/, 2011

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### Excerpt 11

Despite that close relationship, the U.S. has little control over Mubarak's actions now. Today, using what leverage it has, the White House warned Egypt it's considering cutting foreign aid. During the three decades of Mubarak's rule, Egypt has ranked second in U.S. aid, with a staggering \$68 billion. Mubarak's survival is impossible to predict and, even if he does, his plan to make his son his heir apparent is now in serious jeopardy. That uncertainty has the White House walking a tight rope.

CBS News, 2011, COCA

# Excerpt 12

"So you see no greater ITC plan behind all this?" she asked.

Johnston said, "Do you?"

"I don't know," she said. [...]

"[...] But why would this company fund your research, and also buy the land all around the site?"

"I have no idea," Johnston said. [...] "But still, ITC does not own the site. Why should they buy land around it?" "I'll be happy to show you everything I have."

"Perhaps," Johnston said, "you should."

"My Research is just in the car."

Michael Crichton, Timeline, 1999

### Excerpt 13

"Oh yes. That ITC bunch. From New Mexico." She made it sound like the ends of the earth. "Do you know, they asked to buy my father's farm?"

"Did they?"

"They said they needed to rent it for so many years ahead, they might as well buy it."

Michael Crichton, Timeline, 1999

### Excerpt 14

A: Could you tell us about the party held in your home last night, ma'am? B: It was a very ordinary bash. A: What happened to one of your guests wasn't.

> Streets of San Francisco, in Hardt, Dan. 1993. Verb Phrase Ellipsis: Form, Meaning, and Processing. Ph.D. Dissertation, University of Pennsylvania

#### Excerpt 15

"Hokey confessed?"

"She remembered putting something in her mistress's cocoa that turned out not to be sugar, but a lethal and little-known poison," said Dumbledore. "It was concluded that she had not meant to do it, but being old and confused -"

"Voldemort modified her memory, just like he did with Morfin!"

"Yes, that is my conclusion, too," said Dumbledore.

J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince, 2005

#### Excerpt 16

Walters held out his hand. "May I?" he said, nodding at the stapled pages. "Certainly." The officer gave them to the congressman.

Robert Ludlum, The Bourne Identity, 1980

#### Excerpt 17

This letter deserves a response, but before you do, call the legal office.

A Bezuidenhout, http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu Adapted from an example by Andrew Kehler, 2000. Coherence and the resolution of Ellipsis. *Linguistics and Philosophy* 23

Excerpt 18

"Furthermore, copies of all documents shall be delivered to the plaintiff no later than Wednesday of next week, five days before the depositions. The documents are to be neatly copied and in chronological order. Failure to do so will result in severe sanctions."

John Grisham, The Rainmaker, 1994

#### Excerpt 19

"If the price of peace was Mr X's release, then the government would do so."

BBC news bulletin, 2001