SUBJECT:

From the fact that a full noun phrase cannot be bound by an antecedent (in the sense given to the word in Binding Theory), Liliane Haegeman concludes that unlike personal pronouns and bound anaphors, “a full nominal expression refers independently. [...] We can say informally that a lexical NP is able to select a referent by virtue of its inherent properties.”


Discuss.

Candidates will use relevant excerpts from the following corpus to address the above topic.
Excerpt 1
Obama can not only protect himself and the country from future disasters but also make it possible for him to make the intelligent cuts in government spending that will not adversely affect the performance of essential functions. The tendency of most White Houses has been to cross their fingers and pray that nothing blows up on their watch. The question about Obama is whether he really wants to know what’s going on down below.

*Washington Monthly*, March 2011

Excerpt 2
The Vintage Sports-Car Club was established in 1934 to promote the sport and pastime of motoring, principally for cars built before 1931. That still holds true today for the current membership of 7,500 who either compete, marshal or simply enjoy watching some 35 events a year.

http://www.vssc.co.uk/vsccweb/, 2012

Excerpt 3
The Footman James Classic Motor Show is the biggest and most popular classic car exhibition in the UK. With over 1400 wonderful cars from all eras, showcasing a myriad of marques and models, this really is every motoring enthusiast’s paradise! Every year tens of thousands of visitors, from all over the world, gather for this annual homage to motoring history.

http://www.necclassicmotorshow.com/, 2012

Excerpt 4
Germany had two dirigible manufacturers, the Schutte-Lanz Company, and the larger and better known Zeppelin Company. The latter was headed by Ferdinand von Zeppelin, the world’s foremost designer of airships. To this day his name remains synonymous with dirigibles in general.


Excerpt 5
As the chicken embryo develops, it does develop a fairly long tail before a gene kicks on and destroys it. So if we can stop that gene, we theoretically can get a chicken to hatch out with a relatively long tail.

*CBS Sixty Minutes*, 26 December 2012

Excerpt 6
Feeling her end to be very near, the mother called the maiden to her bedside, and, with many words of love and warning, entreated her to continue pure, and good, and true, as she had ever been. She told her that her beauty was a perilous gift which might become her ruin, and commanded her to hide it, as much as possible, from the sight of all men. That she might do this the better, the mother placed on her daughter’s head a lacquered wooden bowl, which she warned her on no account to take off.


Excerpt 7
William Shakespeare (1564-1616) was born at Stratford-upon-Avon in a house in Henley Street. This is preserved intact. His mother, Mary Arden, was one of the daughters of Robert Arden, a yeoman farmer of Wilmcote.

http://www.stratford-upon-avon.co.uk/soawshst.htm, 2012

Excerpt 8
His lips felt numb and it was hard to talk.
His father looked at him and shook his head. We been over this, Nathan. There ain’t a thing in that burned house worth getting scared over.


Excerpt 9
A teacher was mistakenly paid more than £80,000 by Glasgow Council after she had left to work in another area.

*BBC News*, 11 January 2012

Excerpt 10
Online Pumpkin Carving at Spookathon.com: carve and paint a virtual pumpkin, then add a candle and send it to friends and family!

Excerpt 11
Dr. Hunter wanted his son to make something of himself in a more honest way, and during one of Jay’s visits, he tried to convince him to take the final version of the serum. Dr. Hunter hoped Jay could use the powers it would give him to become a hero.

http://www.writeups.org, 2012

Excerpt 12
People of other faiths have a place in national services at St Paul’s. In 2005, at the service of remembrance following the terrorist bombings in London in July of that year, young people representing different faith communities lit candles as a shared sign of hope during turbulent times.

In these symbolic ways London’s cathedral seeks to be a house of prayer for people of all nations.

http://www.stpauls.co.uk/Cathedral-History, 2012

Excerpt 13
PERTH, Australia: Western Australians turned down daylight savings time for the fourth time since 1975 in a referendum on 16 May 2009.

A larger share of the voters rejected daylight savings time this year than in 1992, the last time the question was put to a vote, The Sunday Times of Perth reported. With about two-thirds of the votes counted, about 55 percent had gone into the "No" column, officials said.


Excerpt 14
Itself a supreme achievement of art, the Cathedral is home to many distinguished works of artistic merit. True to the vision of its founder, Cardinal Vaughan, successive generations have embellished the great building with decoration of the highest quality. This great house of God reflects the highest aspirations of humanity, and raises the mind toward the glories of heaven.


Excerpt 15
Statue of Liberty: this statue is the first image you might notice while visiting the city. A very few people know that it was a gift from the French Government on the 100th birthday of America's Independence. This amazing statue is 305 feet high.

http://www.articlesnatch.com/, 2012

Excerpt 16
'Why, it’s like a laundry,' exclaimed Patricia in disappointment as she looked about her. The low-ceilinged whitewashed apartment into which they had descended from the winding iron stair was sepulchrally bare and empty in the flicker of its noisy gas jets.

P. Ginther, Miss Pat at School, 1915

Excerpt 17
Do opposites attract, or do birds of a feather flock together? Should you love the one you’re with, or would that be like changing horses in midstream? We all know that he who hesitates is lost, but doesn’t haste make waste, and isn’t patience a virtue?

Psychology Today, 1997

Excerpt 18
The Pilgrims did not leave behind a list of the things that they brought with them, so we do not know exactly what they brought.

http://www.mayflowerhistory.com/, 2012

Excerpt 19
In a simple experiment, researchers at the University of Chicago sought to find out whether a rat would release a fellow rat from an unpleasantly restrictive cage if it could. The answer was yes.

The free rat, often hearing distress calls from its compatriot, learned to open the cage and did so with greater efficiency over time. It would release the other animal even if there wasn’t the payoff of a reunion with it. Astonishingly, if given access to a small hoard of chocolate chips, the free rat would usually save at least one treat for the captive - which is a lot to expect of a rat.

Washington Post, 9 December 2011