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

SUBJECT:

"Sluicing is the name given by Ross (1969) to the ellipsis construction bracketed in (1):

- (1) a. Somebody just left — guess [who]. (Ross 1969, 252)
b. They claimed they had settled on something, but it wasn't clear [what].

In this construction, a displaced *Wh*-Phrase occurs in isolation in a syntactic environment where one might have expected to find a complete constituent question. Compare the sluices in (1) with the corresponding complete embedded questions in (2):

- (2) a. Somebody just left — guess [who *t* just left].
b. They claimed they had settled on something, but it wasn't clear [what they had settled on *t*].

Working within classical transformational theory, Ross argued that Sluicing sentences were derived from complete constituent questions by a deletion transformation."

Chung, S., W. A. Ladusaw and J. McCloskey. 1995. "Sluicing and Logical Form". *Natural Language Semantics*, 3, 239-282. (Quote from pp.239-40).

Discuss.

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

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Excerpt 1

The dead man worked as a gardener for Middlesbrough Council. Residents living near the scene of the incident said they were aware something had happened, but didn't know what. One woman, shocked at hearing of Robert Dearlove's death, said: "He was a lovely lad."

The Northern Echo, BNC

Excerpt 2

In March, members of the radical Left, led by Lt-Col Vitaly Uraitsev, organised an extra-parliamentary hearing. At this, Grachev was attacked for failing to carry out reforms, allowing the spread of corruption in the army, and hiding statistics about crime. The hearing ended with a demand for his resignation. The worsening of the crisis has led many politicians concerned about keeping the country from anarchy, to look for a stronger defence minister. But who? The Left would like a civilian, but if there is a candidate it is keeping him under wraps.

The Scotsman, BNC

Excerpt 3

Over the eggs and bacon, eaten with bread and butter, Dolly said, "Like you told me, there wasn't anything in the paper about the murder except the police are still workin' on it. But they didn't say there'd be an arrest soon." "It's only been a couple of days," said Joe. "It's worryin', though, ain't it?" "Who for?" "Well, for us. I mean, Blackbeard must know we could've recognized the man from the newspaper photograph, and that we might go to the police about it."

Mary Jane Staples, *Sergeant Joe*, 1992, BNC

Excerpt 4

Nancy didn't appear through the mist, and my first sight of her was nothing like so romantic. It was while being given an introductory tour of Grove House. Nancy — of course that wasn't her name — lay on the couch in the sitting room. She said something, I no longer remember what. Indeed, I probably didn't understand her at the time.

Raymond Hitchcock, *Fighting Cancer: A Personal Story*, 1989, BNC

Excerpt 5

"Don't you try any rough stuff with me, Father! You should know by now it won't work. Where do you think she is?" "She's out somewhere. What I want to know is where has she gone? And who with?" "Well you had better ask her when she comes in, hadn't you?"

Catherine Cookson, *The Wingless Bird*, 1990, BNC

Excerpt 6

"There's a mischievous look in your eye, Dot. What are you up to?" "I'm going to start writing a book." "What about?" "Me." "Ye — s! Oh brilliant! Am I going to be in it?" I laughed. "You can't avoid it, dear."

Michael Falk, *Part of the Furniture*, 1991, BNC

Excerpt 7

The view taken here is that one can produce quite easily a catechism of doom, supported with prodigious rates of soil loss over millions of hectares (and some examples are given in this book). However, attention is instead directed in this chapter to an ideological examination of the question of whether all this matters, and if so, how and to whom. The view that will be taken is that it does matter very much, although not quite in the way in which previous writers about environmental doom have envisaged.

Piers Blaikie, *The Political Economy of Soil Erosion in Developing Countries*, 1987, BNC

Excerpt 8

The men up front were turning their horses' heads. "All right," cried Aranyos, reappearing through the fog, "back you go. Orders are to reverse march." "Where to?" asked someone. "Blaziowitz, in the plain up north." "We've just come from there," Karelius protested. "Quite so. Now we're going back. Someone at headquarters seems to have confused Blaziowitz with Pratzten."

Roger Butters, *Look about and die*, 1991, BNC

Excerpt 9

"Where the fuck's he gone now?" Coy's superior asked him later. It had taken them over an hour to find the F40. "No idea. We've got air traffic on to it. The plane came in from Manchester. The pilot was hired to fly them in a chartered plane." "To where?" "Nobody knows. It's a visual flight. They don't need flight plans if it's out of controlled airspace."

Eddy Shah, *The Lucy Ghosts*, 1993, BNC

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Excerpt 10

The cost of litigation is high. This leaflet is designed to help you understand what you can be asked to pay and when. By instructing us you will become responsible for the payment of the costs and disbursements involved in pursuing your claim.

Ian Walker, *Know How for Personal Injury Lawyers*, 1993, BNC

Excerpt 11

"[...] What will you do? Visit her in New York?" "Well, I doubt she'll come here. There are some awkward questions she may not want to answer." "About what?" "About your brother, Derek. Who rang him in May to make the appointment for him to visit Jackdaw Cottage? Not Beatrix, obviously. But it was a woman, wasn't it?" "Natasha van Ryneveld?" "Who else?"

Robert Goddard, *Hand in Glove*, 1993, BNC

Excerpt 12

So what's your contribution? Ask yourself: How am I involved? Am I the cause? Am I part of the problem? In what ways? When? Where? How? With whom? Why? How are other people involved? Are they the cause? Are they part of the problem? In what ways? When? Where? How? With whom? Why? Is it caused by the way my job is structured? In what ways? When? Where? How? With whom? Why? What part can I play in changing/improving this situation?

Linda Stoker, *Having It All: Making Your Life What You Want It to Be*, 1991, BNC

Excerpt 13

The Lothian assessment model proposes three levels of assessment: Initial (simple needs and outcomes) Specialist (eg OT, speech therapy) Comprehensive (complex needs). Each request for assessment will be "screened" by an experienced member of staff and a decision made about the best type of assessment to be offered, by whom and when. A specialist or comprehensive assessment can be arranged without having to have an initial assessment first.

Leaflet from Lothian Council, 1993, BNC

Excerpt 14

Clearly, ideas for changing the events that trigger your guilt feelings will depend on the exact circumstances, but here are some thought-starters that might help you to arrive at a feasible plan: Keep a guilt diary. When does it happen? Doing what? With whom? Plan to avoid or minimize your exposure to guilt-provoking situations.

Peter Honey, *Improve your People Skills*, 1992, BNC

Excerpt 15

Even when she was talking to you or giving you your change, you could feel her smile going somewhere over your shoulder as she took in the whole room behind you. She always knew exactly who was in and who was missing; and if you were missing, Madame probably knew why, and with whom. All night long she made mental notes of all the transactions being made, the profits, the losses, meetings, separations, the wanting, having, getting, seeing, the excess, the moderation, the negotiations

Neil Bartlett, *Ready to Catch Him Should He Fall*, 1990, BNC

Excerpt 16

"[...] It's extremely difficult to remember something which takes place suddenly, unexpectedly and in distracting circumstances. Try your best." "Let's see. Harriet rode close by the demonstrators, which surprised me. It was as if she didn't see them. They went back — except for Pardy who came forward — or was it that the others went back and he was left alone in a forward position? I couldn't swear quite to which. He waved the placard in a wild and thoroughly stupid manner. The horse reared up. Harriet came off... Pardy just stood there, looking pleased with himself — he waved his arms in a kind of salute."

Ann Granger, *A Season for Murder*, 1991, BNC

Excerpt 17

The Student Advisory Council, with Daniel Vaughn as chairperson, gave Knopfler an overwhelmingly positive recommendation, but the senior members of the Biology Department ended up giving him either a negative or neutral recommendation—it's not clear which. But since the administration bases most of its tenure decisions on the departmental recommendation, anything short of a positive recommendation is the kiss of death.

Literary Review, 1998, COCA