

# ENG 235 - Final Paper

## SOME GUIDELINES

**FIRST STEP: Choose a language you want to work on.**

### OPTION I

If you choose Standard American English (the language we have mainly discussed so far), then look for some **data we have not discussed so far**:

a. Some examples that came up in class:

- pronouns+anaphors: *he himself, they themselves...*
- verbs with two complements: *give something to somebody, put something in a place...*
- complex predicate: *I have been sleeping, it could have been mad,...*
- other kinds of embedded clauses: *I left [before she arrived], I left [to take a nap]*

**BUT TRY TO COME UP WITH SOME NEW ONES!!!**

b. Pick any of Poole's (2002) Open Issues and tackle them (and provided readings).

### OPTION II

If you choose a language other than Standard American English (SAE), then you can:

(i) look at how a **familiar construction** we have studied for SAE behaves in your language,

or

(ii) look at a **new construction** that occurs in the language you chose but it does not in SAE.

**SECOND STEP: Collect the relevant data and check them with at least one native speaker (besides you!)**

**THIRD STEP: Write the paper**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

- Language you will discuss and your knowledge of it;
- native speaker(s) you consulted with;
- other sources (books, grammars, etc.)

### **2. DATA**

- Careful presentation of the data;
- Any pattern(s)/generalization(s) you can observe in the data

### **3. EXPLANATION**

- Try to apply our theory to your data in order to account for the pattern(s)/generalization(s) you observed;
- If you see any problems between the data and the theory, carefully describes them and, if you can, suggest how we could change the theory in order to solve them.
- Draw at least ONE RELEVANT FULLY DETAILED SYNTACTIC TREE and refers to it in your discussion

### **4. CONCLUSION**

- Brief summary of the data you discussed and your findings about how that data can be accounted for by the theory.
- List any open issues/problems you found and, if you were able to, mention the change in the theory you came up with.