

Lec 20

Continue with that paper

Recall main idea — filtration approach, as derived under minimalist program, is wrong
 solution is to return to Chomsky's 1957 non-generative theory

Under minimalism, we don't talk about where things happen in derivation process.
 So θ -role at DS no longer works?

* This paper challenges big view in LO

→ Question is, what data would let us do that?

Examine data

(16) 3PL "WINS" OVER 3SG

a. ja rje' x-e/* ϕ -tz'et-ö rja'
 FOC them COM-3pl/*3sg.ABS-see-AF him

'It was them who saw him.'

b. ja rja' x-e/* ϕ -tz'et-ö rje'
 FOC him COM-3pl/*3sg.ABS-see-AF them

'It was him who saw them.'

COM completive
 FOC focus
 ABS absolutive
 AF agent focus

↓
 absolutive not allowed

... but what is ϕ in (16)?

→ IPA bilabial fricative? x

→ ϕ feature (number, person, gender, etc.)?

→ ϕ null morpheme ✓ ← Someone messed up what got printed

About the null morpheme ϕ

I have three cows / * ϕ

I have three sheep *s/ ϕ