

Grammars and Lexicons: 11-721
Fall Term, 2003
Extra Credit Homework

1 Due Date

You can hand in extra credit homework any time before November 1.

2 Grading

We have not yet decided how the extra credit homework will affect your grade.

3 The Assignment: Linguistlist Discussion Board

The Linguistlist (www.linguistlist.org) has a discussion board for interesting and controversial topics. The discussion board is at: <http://linguistlist.org/issues/indices/Disc2003r.html>. Do the following for extra credit:

- Choose a discussion topic. The topics I recommend are:
 - NYT Essay on Endangered Languages
 - BBC Story: Mandarin and Brain Hemispheres
 - Celtic found to have ancient roots
 - Anaphora makes the headlines

Don't choose "Academic Boycotts". If you want to choose another topic (other than the ones listed above), please check with me first.

- If you choose the NYT or BBC topics, find the original article and read it. (You don't have to find the original Celtic article; one of the reviewers says that it is too hard to read.) I didn't see a pointer to the original Anaphora article, but see if you can find it by searching on the web.
- Read all the messages in the thread of the topic you chose.
- Summarize each point that is made in the thread or the original article. If two people make the same point, you can combine them.
- For each point that you summarize, write in bold face "CONVINCED" or "NOT CONVINCED".
- Write your own summary (less than one page) of your opinion of the issue.
- Give me a draft to review and comment on before handing in the final version.