

# NCA, a list

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Some refs on Null Complement Anaphora (NCA):

Shopen 1972, Hankamer and Sag 1976, Grimshaw 1979, Tanenhaus and Carlson 1990, Depiante 2001, Merchant 2013

- (1) We asked Roger to review those five films, and he agreed (to).
- (2) We'd like to know [which films]<sub>1</sub> Roger refused to [<sub>VP<sub>a</sub></sub> review *t*<sub>1</sub> ], and  
...
  - a. [which ones]<sub>2</sub> he agreed to [<sub>VP<sub>b</sub></sub> review *t*<sub>2</sub>]
  - b. [which ones]<sub>2</sub> he agreed to.  
[which ones]<sub>2</sub> he agreed to <[<sub>VP<sub>b</sub></sub> review *t*<sub>2</sub>]>.
  - c. \*[which ones]<sub>2</sub> he agreed.  
(no place for the *t*<sub>2</sub>!)

(Note: Still need to go thru Levin 1983, Quirk et al 1985, Huddleston and Pullum et al. 2002, etc.)

The following lists are culled from the above, plus my own observations.

## 1 NCA licensors

(dis)approve (of), accept (the offer), agree (to), ask X (to), be a reason (to), be able (to), be Adj enough (to), (e.g., be rich enough to) be apparent (that), be necessary (that), be obvious (that), be possible (that), be possible (to), be surprised/flabbergasted (that), be too bad (that), be true (that), be willing (to), begin (to, ing), comply (with), consent (to DP), continue (ing, to), convince X (to, that), dare (to), disagree (that), feel the need (to), fail (to), find out (that), finish (ing), forbid X (to), forget (that, to), guess (that), have the nerve/courage/chance (to),

inquire (wh), insist (that), know (that, to), notice (that), object (to DP), offer (to), overhear (that), persuade X (to, that) refuse (to), remember (to, that), remind X (to, that), start (to, ing), stop (to, ing), succeed (in), take (X) amount.of.time (to) tell X (that), try (to), understand (that), volunteer (to)

## 1.1 NCA licensers by complement type

- (3) with *to* infinitivals
  - a. agree (to),
  - b. ask X (to),
  - c. be a reason (to),
  - d. be able (to),
  - e. be Adj enough (to), (e.g., be rich enough to)
  - f. be willing (to),
  - g. begin (to, ing),
  - h. dare (to),
  - i. feel the need (to),
  - j. forget (that, to),
  - k. have the nerve/courage/chance (to),
  - l. offer (to),
  - m. refuse (to),
  - n. remember (to, that),
  - o. start (to, ing),
  - p. stop (to, ing),
  - q. take (X) amount.of.time (to)
  - r. try (to),
  - s. volunteer (to)

## 2 Not NCA licensers:

admit (that), advise X (to), announce (that), arrange (to), assert (that) assume (that), avow (that), be apt (to), be capable (of), be evident (that), be going (to), believe (that), brag (that), choose (to), claim (to, that), consider X (to), deny (that), desire (to), elect (to), expect (that, to), figure out (that), hate (to), hesitate (to),

hope (to), like (to), love (to), manage (to), need (to), note (that), plan (to), predict (that), proceed (to), recommend (that), regret (that), repeat (that), say (that) (except in expressions like "X Aux not say"), see (that), see fit (to), seem (that, to), select (to), suggest (that), tell X (to), think (that), undermine (X), want (to), want X (to), wish (to),

### **3 Unclear cases:**

convince X (to), decide (to, that)

## **References**

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