# Questionnaire on the Progressive Aspect

Tentative definition

- S01- /Somebody on the phone wants to know about Ann; the answer is: Ann is near me... / ... She WORK [right now]
- S02- A: What does Ann do every saturday morning?B: She CLEAN THE HOUSE / READ
- S03- [Last night at 8 o' clock,] when John came, Ann still WORK
- S04- Last year we [usually] CLEAN THE HOUSE on Saturdays [now we do it on Thursdays]
- S05- Last summer, John VISIT us three times

#### Transitive verbs and valency

- === /Somebody on the phone wants to know about John; the answer is: John is near me... /
- S06- ... He CLEAN a gun
- S07- ... He READ a newspaper
- S08- ... He BUILD a shelter [for the sheep]
- S09- ... He SING a song
- S10- ... He GIVE a present to his sister
- S11- ... He TELL a story to his sister

#### **Object incorporation**

- === /Somebody on the phone wants to know about Ann; the answer is: Ann is near me.../
- S12- ... She PEEL potatoes
- S13- ... She PEEL the potatoes
- S13- ... She PEEL 3 kilos of potatoes
- S14- ... She PEEL all the potatoes
- S16- ... She CHASE chickens [out of the house]
- S17- ... She CHASE two chickens [out of the house]
- S18- ... She WRITE her thesis [I think she will never finish]

# Causative verbs

- === /Somebody on the phone wants to know about Ted; the answer is:/
- S19- She HAVE his hair CUT [right now]
- S20- He MAKE the child EAT the porridge [right now]

## Motion verbs

- === /Somebody on the phone wants to know about Julie; the answer is/
- S21- She GO OUT [right now; do you want me to hold her back?]
- S22- Well, [right now] she FLY to New York / Moscow [you can call her tomorrow at her hotel]

#### Phasal verbs

- === /Somebody on the phone wants to know about Fred; the answer is: -Fred is near me, ... /
- S23- ... he BEGIN to peel the potatoes [right now]
- S24- ... he FINISH repairing the lamp [right now]
- S25- ... he BEGIN a language drill [right now]
- S26- ... he FINISH a language drill [right now]
- S27- ... he CONTINUE his story-telling [right now]

### Postural verbs

- S28- /Somebody on the phone wants to know about Mary; the answer is/[Right now] She SIT in the kitchen/yard
- S29 A: I need my blue shirt right now; where is it?B: It HANG on the nail

## Non-durative verbs

- S30- I took the photo exactly while John THROW the stone against the window
- S31- [Right now] The climber REACH the top of the mountain
- S32- The pardon arrived just while the captain GIVE the sign to the firing squad

## Non-intentional verbs

- S33- [Look, there he goes again!] George inadvertently INSULT his neighbour with his silly questions. [He really cannot understand the situation].
- S34- [Incredible! Listen to him now! With his words] Philip unconsciously ADMITS the guilt

### Non-agentive, intransitive processes

- S35- [Look at John, on the sofa!] He DREAM of his girlfriend
- S36- [Look out of the window now!] The sun SHINE
- S37- The water BOIL [shall I make tea?]
- S38- [Look, what a shame!] The apples ROT on the tree

## Stative verbs

- S39- [Now, unexpectedly,] Peter KNOW the answer
- S40- [Now, unexpectedly,] Tess LIKE the music
- S41- The mountain SURROUND the plain

# Copular verbs

- S42- [What a wonderful present!] You BE very KIND, now!
- S43- /John has made a negative comment on Ann's hair-style; Ann says with a tone of surprise/ You BE RUDE this evening

#### Remoteness / invisibility

- === /on the phone/ A: Is Ann with you right now?
- S44- B: No, she DANCE [in the next room]
- S45- B: No, she PLAY CARDS [in the next room]
- === /on the phone/ A: Is Ann at home right now? -B: No, ...
- S46- ... she SHOP. She left one hour ago
- S47- ... she PLAY CARDS in the club [as usual]

#### Durative adverbials

- S48- [Yesterday, during my sleep] Ann PLAY for 2 hours all by herself
- S49- [During the whole time of the class/prayer] Ann TALK to her neighbour [in fact, she carried on even afterwards]

- S50- [During the whole time of the class/prayer] Ann TALK to her neighbour [but as soon as that was over, she suddenly became very silent]
- S51- [Moment by moment] The policeman TAKE NOTES of what the speaker said
- S52- He continually FORGET people's names

#### Graduality adverbs

- S53- The level of the water INCREASE slightly since yesterday
- S54- [When I arrived] the situation already IMPROVE little by little
- S55- [When I arrived] the snow COVER gradually the land

## Imminential meaning

- S56- [Hurry up!] The train LEAVE
- S57- The old man DIE [but finally they found the right medicine]

# **Temporariness**

- S58- Ann STAND in the doorway, [right now]
- S59- The statue STAND in the garden [for the summer]
- S60- [Think! While we are here talking about our matters] the earth TURN around the sun
- S61- The boss TYPE his own letters, while the secretary is ill

#### Backgrounding

S62- It was a bright summer day. The bees HUM, the birds SING, the cows GRAZE in the greenfield. Suddenly, the earth opened and the devil came out

## Habitual (and quasi-habitual)

- S63- At that time, he GO to dance every Saturday.
- S64- If you insist on calling me Fred, you INTRUDE in my private life.
- S65- As soon as you start asking what is the use of education, you ABANDON the basic assumptions of any true culture

## Futurate meaning

S66- Ann LEAVE tomorrow

- S67- Ann LEAVE in a minute
- S68- John GET MARRIED tomorrow. Who BE his witness at the wedding?
- S69- Who BE captain of the team tomorrow?

### Sequence and coordination of events

- S70- Yesterday, while Ann READ in her room, Martin PLAY in the courtyard
- === /What did Martin do yesterday evening?/
- S71- He STUDY, he READ the paper, he EAT, and then he GO to bed
- S72- He STUDY from 2 to 6, he READ the paper from 6 to 7, he EAT from 7 to 8, and then he GO to bed

#### **Imperative**

- S73- [For goodness sake,] WORK when the boss comes back!
- S74- /Mother to daughter, whom she wants to punish/ You NOT GO to that party!

# Passive

S75- [Come in, please!] The meal BE SERVED [right now]

# **Negation**

- S76- The boss was angry, because John not WORK when he came in
- S77- [Let's go out,] it not RAIN now
- S78- [This is disgusting;] it is 8.30 and the train not yet LEAVE

#### Modal verbs

- S79- Tom must FEED the animals [I guess]
- S80- Ann should TEACH now [I guess]

## Temporal location of the event

- S81- [I am so tired:] I BAKE all day since I got up this morning
- S82- When John came home yesterday, he was very tired because he WORK hard all week
- S83- If you come at 8 o' clock, I still COOK [Come a little later, please]