

EXAMPLES IN KAYNE (2002) ON THE SYNTAX OF QUANTITY IN ENGLISH

1. *few* and NUMBER.

- (1) John has fewer books than Bill.
- (2) John has the fewest books of anybody I know.
- (3) John has more money than Bill.
- (4) *John has monier than Bill.
- (5) John has the most money of anybody.
- (6) *John has the moniest of anybody.
- (7) John is more for the Democrats than the Republicans.
- (8) *John is forer the Democrats than the Republicans.
- (9) This argument is the most to the point of all of them.
- (10) *This argument is toest the point of all of them.
- (11) John spoke more slowly than anybody else.
- (12) *John spoke slowlier than anybody else.
- (13) It was John who solved it the most quickly of anybody.
- (14) *It was John who solved it the quickliest of anybody.
- (15) John spoke faster than anybody else.
- (16) It was John who spoke the fastest.
- (17) John is a fast/*quickly runner.
- (18) John ran quickly/*fast away.
- (19) John lives on a much lower/*upper floor than Bill.
- (20) *John has a much inner/outer office than Bill.
- (21) Robin Hood lived nearer the forest than the lake.
- (22) It was Robin Hood who lived nearest the forest.
- (23) He lived very near the forest.
- (24) John is too rich.
- (25) *He has too money.
- (26) John has too few friends.
- (27) He lived too near the library.
- (28) *He lived too by/in/at the library.
- (29) John is too in love.
- (30) John is too into linguistics.
- (31) John is too much in love/into linguistics.
- (32) *John is too much rich.
- (33) *John has too much few friends.

- (34) John has a smaller number of books than Bill.
- (35) John has the smallest number of books of anybody I know.
- (36) John has few books.
- (37) ...fewer NUMBER books...
- (38) ...fewest NUMBER books...
- (39) ..few NUMBER books...
- (40) John has few number (of) books.
- (41) ?John has too few a number of books to qualify for a fellowship.
- (42) John has the fewest number of books of anybody I know.

2. The preposing of *few* within DP.

- (43) John has a small number of books.
- (44) John has too small a number of books to...
- (45) John has a smaller number of books than Bill.
- (46) *John has small number (of) books.
- (47) *John has smaller number (of) books than Bill.
- (48) John bought a/the (good) book.
- (49) *John bought (good) book.
- (50) John has few books.
- (51) John has fewer books.
- (52) *John has a fewer books.
- (53) *John has three (hundred) numbers of books in his library.
- (54) There are enormous numbers of books in this library.
- (55) *There are enormous waters in this barrel.
- (56) John has too few books.
- (57) ...too few NUMBER books
- (58) John has too small a number of books.
- (59) *John has a too small number of books.
- (60) ...too few A NUMBER books
- (61) *John has too few a books.
- (62) *John bought too big a houses.
- (63) John bought too big a house.
- (64) *John bought too big houses.
- (65) John bought too few houses.

3. AP movement within DP.

- (66) How big a house did John buy?
(67) *John bought big a house.
(68) (?)The trouble is, he was reading too recently arrived a letter.
(69) *The trouble is, he was reading too recently arrived letters.
(70) *A how big house did John buy?/*John bought a how big house?
(71) *John bought a too big house.
(72) *How big houses did John buy?
(73) What a (beautiful) house he' s bought!
(74) What (beautiful) houses he' s bought!
(75) *How big house did John buy?
(76) *How big a houses did John buy?
(77) John bought too few houses to qualify...
(78) How few houses did John actually buy?
(79) ??John bought too few a number of houses to qualify...
(80) ??How few a number of houses did John actually buy?
(81) ...too few X⁰ NUMBER houses...
(82) *...too big X⁰ houses...

4. Bare *few*.

- (83) John bought few houses.
(84) *John has few number (of) books.
(85) *John has bigger a house than Bill.
(86) *John has fewer (a) number of books than Bill.
(87) John doesn' t have any bigger a house than Bill.
(88) ??John doesn' t have any fewer a number of books than anybody else.
(89) ?John has the fewest number of books of anybody I know.
(90) *John still has the few number books I lent him.
(91) John has the biggest house of anybody.
(92) John bought a/the big house.
(93) *John has the biggest a house of anybody.
(94) John has the biggest of houses.
(95) *John has the big of houses.

5. *A few.*

- (96) *John has few a houses.
- (97) John has a few houses.
- (98) ...a few NUMBER houses
- (99) John has fewer books than Bill.
- (100) *John has a fewer books than Bill.
- (101) Few physicists know anything at all about linguistics.
- (102) *A few physicists know anything at all about linguistics.
- (103) Many physicists know something about linguistics.
- (104) *A many physicists know something about linguistics.
- (105) Very few linguists went to that conference.
- (106) A (?very) few linguists went to that conference.
- (107) Only a very few linguists went to that conference.
- (108) *Very linguists go to conferences.
- (109) *John ate very bread yesterday.
- (110) A (very) small number of linguists went to that conference.
- (111) Few people left.
- (112) *Small number of people left.
- (113) ...few NUMBER(non-sing.) books
- (114) ...a few NUMBER(sing.) books

6. *Many.*

- (115) John doesn' t have many books.
- (116) John doesn' t have many NUMBER(non-sing.) books.
- (117) *John has a many books.
- (118) *...a many NUMBER(sing.) books
- (119) ??John bought too few a number of houses to qualify for assistance.
- (120) ?John has the fewest number of houses of anybody I know.
- (121) *John bought too many a number of houses to qualify for assistance.
- (122) *John has the most number of houses of anybody I know.
- (123) *John bought (too) few/many numbers of houses.
- (124) *John has the fewest/most numbers of houses...

- (125) The first few classes went well.
- (126) *The first many classes went well.
- (127) The same few students are always arriving late.
- (128) *The same many students are always arriving late.
- (129) They' ll be here in another few days.
- (130) *They' ll be here in another many days.
- (131) They come by every few days.
- (132) *They come by every many days.
- (133) John has a great many books.
- (134) John has a good many books.
- (135) ...a *large/*big/*small/*bad many books.
- (136) John has a good few books.

7. GOOD.

- (137) ...a GOOD few NUMBER(sing.) books
- (138) *John has a fewer books than Bill.
- (139) *...a GOOD fewer NUMBER(sing.) books...
- (140) A good many linguists went to the conference.
- (141) *A good more linguists went to this conference than that one.
- (142) *...a good more NUMBER(sing.) linguists...
- (143) John wants a good large box of candy for his birthday.
- (144) The box of candy he got was good and large.
- (145) *John wants a good larger box of candy for his birthday.
- (146) *The box of candy he got was good and larger (than mine).
- (147) *The box of candy he got was good and too large.
- (148) *A good too many linguists went to the conference.
- (149) *A too few linguists went to the conference.
- (150) *Too many a good linguists went to the conference.
- (151) *Too few a linguists went to the conference.
- (152) *The box of candy he got was good and so large.
- (153) *A good so many linguists went to the conference.
- (154) *A so few linguists went to the conference.
- (155) *a GOOD so few NUMBER(sing.) linguists...
- (156) *Such a few linguists went to the conference that it was considered a failure.
- (157) So few linguists went...

- (158) *Good many linguists went to the conference.
- (159) Why did they invite so many linguists?
- (160) *Why did they invite such a good many linguists?³²

8. Numerous.

- (161) Many linguists find syntax fascinating.
- (162) Numerous linguists find syntax fascinating.
- (163) As many/*numerous linguists like syntax as like phonology.
- (164) *So numerous linguists like syntax that...
- (165) *Too numerous linguists like syntax for...
- (166) *How numerous linguists like syntax?
- (167) *Do that numerous linguists really like syntax?
- (168) John' s friends are as numerous as Bill' s.
- (169) ...are so numerous that...
- (170) ...are too numerous for...
- (171) How numerous are John' s friends?
- (172) John' s friends aren' t all that numerous.
- (173) *How intelligent linguists is the search committee looking for?
- (174) How intelligent are those linguists?
- (175) How intelligent a linguist is the search committee looking for?
- (176) as many NUMBER linguists...
- (177) many/few NUMBER linguists
- (178) numerous (*NUMBER) linguists
- (179) number_i+ous t_i linguists
- (180) Many linguists like phonology, but many don' t.
- (181) *Numerous linguists like phonology, but numerous don' t.
- (182) *Good linguists like phonology, and good like syntax, too.
- (183) *Good linguists like phonology, but bad don' t.
- (184) Many linguists like phonolgy, whereas (very) few like chemistry.
- (185) A large number of linguists like phonology, but a large number don' t.
- (186) Old letters should be read quickly, but recently arrived *(letters) shouldn' t be.

9. Polarity and modification.

- (187) He hasn't gone to many classes this semester.
(188) ?He's gone to many classes this semester.
(189) Not many students are into chemistry these days.
(190) ?Many students are into chemistry these days.
(191) He's gone to numerous classes this semester.
(192) Numerous students are into chemistry these days.
(193) *Not numerous students are into chemistry these days.
(194) ?He hasn't gone to numerous classes this semester.
(195) Not very many students are into chemistry these days.
(196) ??Very many students are into chemistry these days.
(197) not VERY many students...
(198) ...hasn't gone to VERY many...
(199) *Not very numerous students are into chemistry these days.
(200) *Very numerous students are into chemistry these days.
(201) Incredibly many students are into chemistry these days.
(202) *Incredibly numerous students are into chemistry these days.
(203) John's enemies are very/incredibly numerous.
(204) *So numerous linguists like syntax that...
(205) John's friends are so numerous that...
(206) *So smart linguists like syntax that...
(207) John had never met so smart a linguist.
(208) *John had never met smart a linguist.
(209) *John had never met very/incredibly smart a linguist.
(210) John's very numerous friends are preparing a surprise party for him.
(211) We're planning to invite all of John's incredibly numerous friends.

10. Scope in English vs. French.

- (212) Numerous students are into chemistry these days.
(213) Such smart students like syntax that...
(214) Jean connaît de si nombreux linguistes que...
(215) Nous avons invité de très nombreux linguistes.
(216) *John knows so numerous linguists that...

- (217) *We' ve invited very numerous linguists.
- (218) Jean connaît de si belles filles! (' J knows *de* so beautiful girls')
- (219) *John knows so beautiful girls!
- (220) *We saw a so beautiful painting that...
- (221) We saw so beautiful a painting that...
- (222) Nous avons vu un si beau tableau que... (' we have seen a so beautiful painting')
- (223) *Nous avons vu si beau un tableau que...
- (224) John knows so many linguists that...
- (225) John knows many/few linguists.
- (226) John knows smart linguists.
- (227) *Such numerous people bought a car last year that...
- (228) *Such many people bought a car last year that...
- (229) *Such few people bought a car last year that...

11. *Many a.*

- (230) Many a linguist has published an article in *LI*.
- (231) *Numerous a linguist has published an article in *LI*.
- (232) *Many a linguists...
- (233) That linguistics society is made up of many linguists/*many a linguist.
- (234) We have seen many ants/*many an ant disperse and then reassemble.
- (235) *Few a linguist...
- (236) many NUMBER a linguist
- (237) *Famous a linguist...

12. *Quite a few.*

- (238) John has quite a few friends.
- (239) John has quite a small number of friends.
- (240) John has quite a little money saved up.
- (241) John has quite a small amount of money saved up.
- (242) a little AMOUNT money
- (243) a little dog

- (244) John has quite a little bit of money saved up.
- (245) That' s quite a little discovery you' ve made there.
- (246) That' s quite a small discovery you' ve made there.
- (247) ?John has quite a little number of friends.

13. Polarity and *few/little*.

- (248) Few people know anything about cosmology.
- (249) *A few people know anything about cosmology.
- (250) Little money is spent on anything worthwhile.
- (251) *A little money is spent on anything worthwhile.
- (252) NOT few people...
- (253) NOT little money...
- (254) Not many people know anything about cosmology.
- (255) Not much money is spent on anything worthwhile.
- (256) a GOOD few NUMBER(sing.) books
- (257) a GOOD little AMOUNT money
- (258) John may not have made a mistake.
- (259) John may well have made a mistake.

14. Conclusion.

- (260) In all languages, modifiers with the interpretation of *many* or *few* necessarily modify NUMBER (or *number*).
- (261) UG excludes the possibility that a single adjective could simultaneously express what is expressed by *large/small* and what is expressed by *number*.

15. Appendix.

- (262) UG imposes a maximum of one interpretable syntactic feature per lexical item.
- (263) a red COLOR car
- (264) That car is red in color.
- (265) What color car did you buy this time?

- (266) That car is small in size.
- (267) What size car are you renting this week?
- (268) a small SIZE car
- (269) New York is a great city/has 8 million inhabitants.
- (270) New York City/The city of New York...
- (271) New York CITY...
- (272) Fido DOG...
- (273) Mary/John PERSON...