

Presuppositions: Negation and questions

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1 Negation

Hypothesis N If p is a presupposition of sentence S , then p is a presupposition of the negated version of S as well.

- (1) a. Sam stopped smoking. (p = Sam smoked in the past)
b. Sam didn't stop smoking.
- (2) a. Ed realizes that it is Wednesday. (p = it is Wednesday)
b. Ed doesn't realize that it is Wednesday.
- (3) a. My dog is outside. (p = the speaker has a dog.)
b. It is not the case that my dog is outside

2 Questions

Hypothesis Q If p is a presupposition of sentence S , then p is a presupposition of the interrogative version of S as well.

- (4) a. Sam stopped smoking. (p = Sam smoked in the past)
b. Did Sam stop smoking?
- (5) a. Ed realizes that it is Wednesday. (p = it is Wednesday)
b. Does Ed realize that it is Wednesday?
- (6) a. My dog is outside. (p = the speaker has a dog.)
b. Is my dog is outside?