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## Word order and information structure in New Testament Greek

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## **Appendix I: Criteria for the clauses included in Chapter 2, Section 4.**

### **I. Clausal elements and structure**

#### **1 The clause contains at least an S, V and O**

Table 4 in Section 4.2 contains clauses that contain at least an S, V and O, I do include clauses that contain more than just these elements. Indirect objects (IOs), prepositional phrases (PPs), negation, particles and adverbs can also be present in the clauses, and can intervene between S, V and O. For example, I include the SVO clause in (1), where an adverb occurs initially, and negation intervenes between the S and V.

- (1) ADV-(dé)-S-NEG-V-O (included)
- |  |                       |                |            |             |
|--|-----------------------|----------------|------------|-------------|
| ho:saúto:s  | dè                    | kai            | hoi        | heptà       |
| similarly  | PCL                   | also           | D.NOM.SG.M | seven.INDCL |
| ou   | katélipon             |                | tékna      |             |
| NEG  | leave.3PL.AOR.IND.ACT | child.ACC.PL.N |            |             |
| 'And similarly, the seven did not leave children.' |                       |                |            |             |
| ώσαύτως δὲ καὶ οἱ ἑπτὰ οὐ κατέλιπον τέκνα          |                       |                |            |             |
| (Lk 20:31)   |                       |                |            |             |

#### **2 The clause is continuous**

The clause is not necessarily an isolated sentence. I include, for example, the apodoses of conditionals, and conjoined clauses. I also include clauses like (2).

- (2) S V O [PARTP] (included)
- |   |              |                             |                          |
|---|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| kai   | hoi          | telō:nai                    | edikaío:sin              |
| and   | D.NOM.PL.M   | publican.NOM.PL.M           | justify.3PL.PRES.IND.ACT |
| tōn   | thēòn        | [baptisthéntes ...]         |                          |
| D.ACC.SG.M  | God.ACC.SG.M | baptize.NOM.PL.AOR.PART.PAS |                          |
| 'And the publicans justified God, being baptized (with the baptism of John).' |              |                             |                          |
| καὶ οἱ τελῶναι ἐδικαίωσιν τὸν θεὸν βαπτισθέντες (τὸ βάπτισμα Ἰωάννου)         |              |                             |                          |
| (Lk 7:29)   |              |                             |                          |

In (2), a participial clause (PARTP) modifies the subject of the MC. The PARTP does not interrupt the MC elements, occurring following all of them. I include clauses like these, whether the participial clause refers to the S or the O.

However, I don't include clauses in which Ss or Os are modified by subordinate clauses that interrupt the elements of the MC. An example of this excluded case is given in (3).

## (3) S [PARTP] VO (excluded)

pâs                    anè:r                    [proseuk<sup>h</sup>ómenos  
 each.NOM.SG.M man.NOM.SG.M pray.NOM.SG.M.PRES.PART.MID  
 è: prop<sup>h</sup>e:teúo:n ]                    [ ... ]  
 or prophesy.NOM.SG.M.PRES.PART.ACT  
 kataisk<sup>h</sup>únei                    tè:n                    kep<sup>h</sup>alè:n  
 dishonour.3SG.PRES.IND.ACT D.ACC.SG.M head.ACC.SG.M  
 autoû  
 his.GEN.SG  
 ‘Every man, when praying or prophesying, (and having his head down),  
 dishonours his head.’  
 πᾶς ἀνὴρ προσευχόμενος ἢ προφητεύων (κατὰ κεφαλῆς ἔχων)  
 καταισχύνει τὴν κεφαλὴν αὐτοῦ.                    (1 Cor 11:4)

In (3), the S *pâs anè:r* “every man”, is interrupted from the finite V, *kataisk<sup>h</sup>únei* “dishonours” by three participial clauses. The first two are disjunct, “praying or prophesying”, and the third, “having his head covered” is appositional to these, i.e., is also used predicatively. I have left the third participial clause out of the glossed example.

I exclude this construction from the pool of clauses because the relationship between the S and the finite V is not at all straightforward, and the structure is likely different from a regular SVO clause. Similarly, I would exclude clauses in which a participial clause modifying an O intervenes between O and the other main clause elements, however I have not found this.

- **S and O are not embedded in a participial clause (PARTP)**

This criterion is related to the restriction just stated about participial arguments, or participial clauses. Consider the clause in (4).

## (4) [PartP...S...] V O (excluded)

[Idô:n                    dè                    ho                    hekatontárk<sup>h</sup>e:s  
 see.NOM.SG.M.PRES.PART.ACT      PCL      D.NOM.SG.M      centurion.NOM.SG.M  
 tò                    genómenon                    ]  
 D.ACC.SG.N      happen.ACC.SG.N.AOR.PART.MID  
 edóxasden                    tòn                    t<sup>h</sup>eòn  
 glorify.3SG.IMPF.IND.ACT      D.ACC.SG.M      god.ACC.SG.M  
 ‘And seeing what was done, the centurion glorified God.’  
 Ιδών δὲ ὁ ἑκατοντάρχης τὸ γενόμενον ἐδόξαζεν τὸν θεὸν  
 (Lk 23:47)

The nominative participial clause *Idô:n dè ho hekatontárk<sup>h</sup>e:s tò genómenon* “The centurion seeing what was done”, appears preceding the MC, *edóxasden tòn t<sup>h</sup>eòn* “[he] glorified God”. *Ho hekatontárk<sup>h</sup>e:s* “the centurion” seems to be the subject of the MC and of the participial clause. In this instance, this subject occurs in a medial position, i.e., is embedded within the PARTP.

The structure of this bi-clausal construction is unclear. How are these clauses linked? Since the relationship between the DP and the finite verb is so unclear, I leave these constructions out.

## II. The Verb

### 3 The verb is transitive

As stated in section 4.1, the verb must be finite, and transitive. This requirement excludes all instances of the following copular verbs, as well as all intransitive predicates. Some examples are given in (5) and (6).

(5) Copular predicates (excluded)

εἰμί	γίνομαι	ύπάρχω
eimí	gígnomai	hypárk <sup>h</sup> o:
“be”	“become”	“be”

(6) Intransitive verbs (excluded)

-ἔρχομαι	πορεύματι
-έρκ <sup>h</sup> omai	poreúomai
“come”, “go”	“travel”, “journey”, “depart”

### 4 The verb assigns ACC, GEN, or DAT to an argument that is a patient or theme

I consider direct objects to be patients or themes. They most often occur in the accusative case in Greek, but not always. Certain verbs consistently occur with patients that carry dative or genitive case. In some cases, the V carries a prepositional prefix, and the case that this preposition assigns is the case that appears on the direct object. I include clauses with these verbs. The ones I have found in my survey are in (7). If a prepositional prefix occurs, it is bolded.

(7) Verbs that take non-accusative Os (included)

βοηθέω (boe:t <sup>h</sup> é:o:), “help”, “assist” + DAT (Rev 12:16)	προσρήγνυμ (prosré:gnumi), “dash against” + DAT (Lk 6:48)	ἐπετίμω (epetímao:), “rebuke” + DAT (Lk 9:42)
èxousiázō (exousiásdo:), “exercise power over” + GEN (1 Cor 7:4)	mimnήσκω (mimné:sko:), “remind” +GEN (Mt 26:75)	ὑπομιμνήσκω (hypomimné:sko:), “remind” +GEN (Lk 22:61)

- The verb consists of one word

That the verb must consist of one word covers the following restrictions.

• The verb is not periphrastic

I exclude periphrastic verbal forms, which contain an auxiliary (AUX) and a participial (PART).<sup>87</sup> These are not very common in the NT, but there are a significant number of them. Consider (8), which contains the finite auxiliary *estin* “is”, and the participle *poioûn* “making”.

(8) Periphrastic verb (excluded)

ou	gàr	<b>estin</b>	déndron	kalòn
NEG	PTCL	is.3SG.PRES.IND.ACT	tree.NOM.SG.N	good.NOM.SG.N
<b>poioûn</b>			kárpòn	saprón
			make.NOM.SG.N.PRES.PART.ACT	fruit.ACC.SG.M rotten.ACC.SG.M
‘For, a good tree does not make rotten fruit, (nor does a rotten tree make good fruit).’				
οὐ γὰρ ἔστιν δένδρον καλὸν ποιοῦν κάρπὸν σαρπόν (οὐδὲ πάλιν δένδρον σαρπὸν ποιοῦν καρπὸν καλόν.)				(Lk 6:43)

The practical reason for excluding these constructions is that the auxiliary is often split from the participle in the string, and it’s unclear which should be treated as the verb.

Aside from this, there are various possible readings and structures of the clause in (16), and other sequences of AUX...PART. With respect to (16), an episodic reading would mean that at the moment of the utterance there was no good tree in the middle of making rotten fruit. All Bible translations give this clause a gnomic (generic) interpretation, meaning that as a general rule, a good tree doesn’t make rotten fruit.

Aside from the semantic interpretation, the structure of (16) is unclear. The possible parses, and paraphrases of these are summarized below.

- i. True periphrastic construction (*déndron kalón*, “a good tree” is the subject of the AUX):
  - lit., “A good tree isn’t making rotten fruit.”
- ii. Negative existential construction:
  - lit, “There is not a good tree making rotten fruit.”
- iii. Cleft construction:
  - lit, “It is not the good tree making rotten fruit”
- iv. Predicative adjective reading (*déndron*, “tree” is the subject of the AUX):
  - lit., “A tree is not good, [if/when] making rotten fruit.”

• The verb is not a modal + infinitival

I exclude modal verbs with infinitival complements, such as (9).

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<sup>87</sup> I use ‘periphrastic’ rather loosely, referring to sequences of AUX... PART.

- (9) Infinitival complement (excluded)

tʰemélion	gàr	állon	oudeìs
foundation.ACC.SG.M	PRTCL	other.ACC.SG.M	no-one.NOM.SG.M
<b>dúnatai</b>	<b>tʰeînai</b>		
can.3SG.PRES.IND.MID	put.AOR.INFIN.ACT		
‘For, no one can lay another foundation (than what is laid).’			
θεμέλιον γὰρ ἄλλον οὐδεὶς δύναται θεῖναι (παρὰ τὸν κείμενον)			
(1 Cor 3:11)			

- The predicate is not complex

I exclude clauses with complex predicates containing the light verb *ék<sup>h</sup>o*: “have”. A fairly common example is the complex *k<sup>h</sup>reían ék<sup>h</sup>o*: “have need”, or “need”. It occurs with a genitive complement, which is the thing needed. For example, in (10), *k<sup>h</sup>refán* “need” occurs preverbally, and the genitive complement *toù he:líou* “the sun” occurs postverbally.

- (10) Complex predicate *k<sup>h</sup>reían ék<sup>h</sup>ei* (excluded)  
 kaī he: polis ou k<sup>h</sup>reían  
 and D.NOM.SG.F city.NOM.SG.F NEG need.ACC.SG.F  
 ék<sup>h</sup>ei toû he:líou  
 have.3SG.PRES.IND.ACT D.GEN.SG.M sun.GEN.SG.M  
 ‘And the city does not have need of the sun.’  
 καὶ ἡ πόλις οὐ χρείαν ἔχει τοῦ ἡλίου (Rev 21:23)

### III. The arguments

## 5 Arguments are DPs or QPs

I include clauses with arguments that are either NP/DPs (Determiner Phrases) or QPs (Quantifier Phrases). This includes nouns, and many other categories. For example, proper names are syntactically NP/DPs, so I include them. Various other categories, such as adjectives and adverbs are used as DPs (substantivized) with the article, and I include these as arguments. The constituents may also contain additional genitive complements or adjectives. Examples of the types of phrases included as DPs are summarized in Table 1.

DP	Example
Bare noun (anarthrous noun)	φίλοις pʰílous friend.ACC.PL.M “friends” (Lk 12:30) ((1) above)
Noun + indefinite	ἄνθρωπός τις ánthr̥o:pós tis man.NOM.SG.M INDEF.NOM.SG.M “a man” (Lk 14:6) ((61) below)
Article + noun	τὸν κύριον tòn kúrion D.ACC.SG.M lord.ACC.SG.M “the lord” (Lk 1:46) ((2) above)
Bare proper name	Αβρααμ Abraam “Abraham” (Mt 1:2)((1) above)
Article + proper name	τὸν Ἰσαακ tòn Isaak D.ACC.SG.M Isaac, “Isaac” (Mt 1:2)((1) above)
Article + adjective	ὁ ἀγαμος ho ágamos D.NOM.SG.M unmarried.NOM.SG.M “the unmarried [one]” (1 Cor 7:32)
Article + genitive <sup>88</sup>	τὰ τοῦ κυρίου tà toû kuríou D.ACC.PL.N D.GEN.SG.M lord.GEN.SG.M “the [things] of the lord” (1 Cor 7:32)
Article + adverb	τοὺς ἔξω toùs éxo: D.ACC.PL.M without “the [ones] without” (1 Cor 5:13)
Article + pronoun	τὸ εαυτοῦ tò heautoû D.ACC.SG.N himself.GEN.SG.M “the [thing] of his own” (1 Cor 10:24)

**Table 1: DPs included as arguments**

The quantified expressions that I find as arguments are summarized in Table 2. I organize these into the categories strong and weak, as distinguished in Milsark (1977).

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<sup>88</sup> I have only found this in First Corinthians.

QP	Q type	Example
Bare Q	Strong	ἕκαστος hécastos each.NOM.SG.M “each [man]” above) (1 Cor 3:8) ((35)
	Strong (negative)	οὐδεῖς oudeis no-one.NOM.SG.M “no-one” (Lk 5:37)
Article + Q	Weak	οἱ ἑπτά hoi heptà D.NOM.PL.M seven.INDCL “the seven” (Lk 20:31)
Demonstrative + Q	Strong	ταῦτα πάντα taûta pánta DEM.ACC.PL.N all.ACC.PL.N “all these things” (L 13:30) ((8)above)
Q + article + noun	Strong	πάντα τὰ ὄγηματα pánta tà r̄é:mata all.ACC.PL.N D.ACC.PL.N thing.ACC.PL.N (Lk 2:51)
Article + Q + noun	Weak	αι ἑπτὰ βρονταὶ hai heptà brontaì D.NOM.PL.F seven.INDCL thunder.NOM.PL.F “the seven thunders” (Rev 10:3)
Q + noun	Strong	πᾶσα σάρξ pâsa sàrx all.NOM.SG.F flesh.NOM.SG.F “all flesh” (Lk 3:6)
	Weak	πέντε μνᾶς pénte mnâs five.INDCL mina.ACC.PL.F “five minas” (Lk 19:18)
Q + GenP (partitive)	Weak	εἷς τις ἐξ αὐτῶν one.NOM.SG.M “one of these” (Lk 22:50)

Table 2: QPs included as arguments

## 6 Arguments are not pronominal forms

Pronouns are known to behave differently syntactically than NP/DPs. The position of clitic pronominals, such as the indefinite pronoun *tis* is also partly due to phonology. Therefore, the arguments considered must not consist entirely of

pronouns.

- (11) Pronominal O (excluded)

Tóte paralambánei            **autòn**            ho            diábolos  
 then take.3SG.PRES.IND.ACT him.ACC.SG D.NOM.SG.M devil.NOM.SG.M  
 ‘Then the devil took him (into the holy city).’

Tóte παραλαμβάνει αὐτὸν ὁ διάβολος (εἰς τὴν ἀγίαν πόλιν)

(Mt 4:5)

This applies to the pronominal paradigms listed in table 3.

Personal pronouns	Reflexive pronouns	Demonstrative pronouns	Indefinite pronouns
ἐγώ (egó:) “I” (strong & weak forms)	ἐμαυτοῦ (emautoû) “myself”	οὗτος (hoûtos) “this”	τις (tis) “some x”, “any x”, “a (certain) x”
σύ (sú) “you” (strong & weak forms)	σεαυτοῦ (seautoû) “yourself”	ἐκεῖνος (ekeînos) “that”	
αὐτός (autós) “pro-self” / “him”	έαυτοῦ (heautoû) “himself”		

Table 3: bare pronouns excluded as arguments

However, I do include clauses whose arguments contain pronominal forms, along with other elements. For example, example (12) is included, since the pronoun (from the *autós* paradigm) is part of a larger DP.

- (12) OVS clause (included)

pánta            dè            taûta            energéî  
 all.ACC.PL.N PRTCL DEM.ACC.PL.N operate.3SG.PRES.IND.ACT

**tò            hèn            kai            tò            autò**

D.NOM.SG.N one.NOM.SG.N and D.NOM.SG.N same.NOM.SG.N

**pneûma**

spirit.NOM.SG.N

‘And one and the same spirit works all these things, (distributing to each [one] equally, as he wishes.)’

πάντα δὲ ταῦτα ἐνεργεῖ τὸ ἐν καὶ τὸ αὐτὸ πνεῦμα, διαιρούν ίδια  
 ἐκάστῳ καθὼς βούλεται.      (1 Cor 12:11)

*Autós* used in this way is traditionally called an adjective pronoun (see Smyth 1984:302, §1205). It has the meaning “the same”, when preceded by the definite article. In (12), combined with the other S elements, yields the meaning “one and the

same spirit". Notice also that the O in this example contains the demonstrative *taîta*, but it occurs along with the strong quantifier *pánta*, and so is counted as an object.

If a pronominal S or O is conjoined with a full DP object, I include the clause. In (13) the pronoun *autòn* "him" is conjoined with the QP *pántas tòùs sùn autô:i* "all those with him".

- (13) O pronoun conjoined with full DP (included)
- |   |            |                          |             |                 |
|---|------------|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| thámbos   | gàr        | periésk <sup>hen</sup>   |             |                 |
| amazement.NOM.SG.M  | PCL        | surround.3SG.AOR.IND.ACT |             |                 |
| <b>autòn</b>  | <b>kai</b> | <b>pántas</b>            | <b>tòùs</b> | <b>sùn</b>      |
| him.ACC.SG  | and        | all.ACC.PL.M             | D.ACC.PL.M  | with him.DAT.SG |
| 'For, he became amazed, and all those with him, (at the catch of fish).'              |            |                          |             |                 |
| θάμβος γὰρ περιέσχεν αὐτὸν καὶ πάντας τοὺς σὺν αὐτῷ (ἐπὶ τῇ ἀγρᾳ τῶν ἔχθυων) (Lk 5:9) |            |                          |             |                 |

Finally, if a pronoun is preceded by the definite article, it is included, as already shown in Table 1.

## 7 Arguments are continuous strings

If arguments consist of more than one word, the words have to be in continuous strings. For example, the clause in (14) is excluded, as the object consists of both *déka*, "ten" and *mnâs*, "mina" (a currency measure). The first occurs preverbally and the second postverbally. It could be described as SVO or SOV, so I exclude it.

- (14) Split argument (excluded)
- |   |                         |               |  |  |
|---|-------------------------|---------------|--|--|
| he:   | mnâ                     | sou           |  |  |
| D.NOM.SG.F  | mina.NOM.SG.F           | your.GEN.SG   |  |  |
| <b>déka</b>   | prose:grásato           | <b>mnâs</b>   |  |  |
| ten.INDCL   | produce.3SG.AOR.IND.MID | mina.ACC.PL.F |  |  |
| '(Master), your mina made ten minas.'               |                         |               |  |  |
| (χύριε), ή μνᾶ σου δέκα προσηγάσατο μνᾶς (Lk 19:16) |                         |               |  |  |

## 8 Arguments are not clausal

I do not include arguments that are clausal, such as participles, relative clauses, infinitivals and indirect questions. I illustrate the restriction against participle subjects in Chapter 2, subsection 4.1. In example (14) therein, the participle is bare.

I also exclude participles that are preceded by the definite article. Example (15) is an illustration of this.

- (15) S = participle (excluded)

**ho** dè **egert<sup>h</sup>eis**  
 D.NOM.SG.M and wake.NOM.SG.M.AOR.PART.PAS  
 parélaben tò paidíon ...  
 take.3SG.AOR.IND.ACT the.ACCT.SG.N child.ACCT.SG.N  
 ‘And he, when he awoke, took the child (and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt.)’  
 ó δὲ ἐγερθεὶς παρέλαβεν τὸ παιδίον καὶ τὴν μητέρα αὐτοῦ νυκτὸς  
 καὶ ἀνεχώρησεν εἰς Αἴγυπτον, (Mt 2:14)

The participle *egert<sup>h</sup>eis* “having awoken” inflects with nominative morphology, and is preceded by the definite article, and so the D and the participle could form a constituent of the MC, “the one who awoke took the child”. However, none of the standard translations give this interpretation. They give a translation structured like the one I have given below the example, where the participial clause is used predicatively, “when he awoke”, or “having awoken”. Such a translation reflects a structure where there is no explicit subject of the participial clause or the main clause, other than the determiner, which would function as an independent pronoun.

The article is actually found quite commonly in the nominative with no complement of any kind, as the example in (16) illustrates.

- (16)
- hoi**
- dè eîpan autô:i

D.NOM.PL.M PRTCL say.3PL.AOR.IND.ACT him.DAT.SG  
 ‘(And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ would be born).’  
 (καὶ συναγαγὼν πάντας τὸν ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ γραμματεῖς τοῦ λαοῦ  
 ἐπινθάνετο παρ’ αὐτῶν ποῦ ὁ Χριστὸς γεννᾶται). (Mt 2:5)

In (16) the D occurs with no complement, morphologically agreeing with the verb *eîpan* “they said”. The D resumes referents from the previous discourse, in this case, the chief priests and scribes of the people. It behaves like an independent pronoun. This opens up the possibility that nominative participles following the definite article do not necessarily form constituents with these articles. I exclude all arguments made of participles to be consistent.

Example (17) illustrates a clause in which the object is the free relative clause “[a place] where he shall lay his head” is the object of the negated finite verb *ék<sup>h</sup>ei* “have”. The clause is excluded.

- (17) O = Adjunct free relative clause (excluded)

ho dè huiòs (...) ouk ék<sup>h</sup>ei  
 D.NOM.SG.M PRTCL son.NOM.SG. NEG have.3SG.PRES.IND.ACT  
**poû tè:n kep<sup>h</sup>alè:n klíne:i**  
 where D.ACC.SG.F head.ACC.SG.F lay.3SG.PRES.SUBJ.ACT  
 ‘but the son (of man) does not have anywhere to lay his head.’  
 ó δὲ νιὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου οὐκ ἔχει ποῦ τὴν κεφαλὴν κλίνῃ.  
 (Mt 8:20; Lk 9:58)

## Appendix II: Citations corresponding to Table 4, Chapter 2

### **Matthew**

<b>SVO (52)</b>	<b>VSO (7)</b>	<b>OVS (3)</b>	<b>SOV (2)</b>
1:1 – 1:16 <sup>89</sup>	9:35	10:5	8:20
3:4	10:21	13:34	16:4
6:15	13:41	27:1	
9:16	14:1		
11:27	17:1		
12:35	19:5		
13:22	22:24		
19:11			
21:1			
21:8			
21:28			
24:29			
25:4			
26:20			
26:65			

### **Luke**

<b>SVO (14)</b>	<b>VSO (13)</b>	<b>SOV (5)</b>	<b>VOS (3)</b>	<b>OVS (1)</b>	<b>OSV (1)</b>
1:13	1:32	6:33	5:29	2:35	12:30
2:51	1:46	7:30	7:6		
5:9	3:6	9:58	16:14		
5:26	5:37	10:42			
5:37	6:48	11:39			
6:45	7:16				
6:45	9:42				
7:29	10:1				
14:16	15:27				
15:11	16:8				
16:15	19:43				
19:18	22:50				
20:9	22:61				
20:31					

<sup>89</sup> Within verses 1-16, there are 38 SVO clauses listing the genealogy of Christ.

**First Corinthians**

<b>SOV (13)</b>	<b>SVO (8)</b>	<b>OVS (5)</b>	<b>OSV (2)</b>	<b>VOS (1)</b>
3:8	2:14	1:27	2:11	15:33
4:9	2:15	1:27	5:13	
6:9-10	3:20	1:28		
6:14	7:32	5:7		
7:2	7:34	7:28		
7:2	12:18	12:11		
7:3	12:24			
7:4	15:38			
7:4				
10:3				
10:24				
11:21				
14:26				

**Revelation**

<b>VSO (12)</b>	<b>SVO (11)</b>	<b>SOV (1)</b>
7:17	12:4	22:11
8:15	13:2	
9:6	16:3	
10:3	16:4	
12:16	16:8	
12:16	16:10	
14:19	16:12	
16:21	16:17	
18:5	20:6	
18:21	20:13	
20:13	21:24	
22:19		