LIN6049 Advanced Semantics: Puzzles in Meaning 2022/2023

Puzzle 2: no trial without dual cross-linguistically

If submitting for <u>feedback</u>, submit electronically via QM+ on Monday, **6 February 2023**, **11.55pm** If submitting for <u>assessment</u>, submit electronically via QM+ by Thursday, **20 April 2023**, **11.55pm**

Another cross-linguistically valid generalization regarding the expression of grammatical number from Greenberg (1966) is that all languages with a trial also have a dual. That is, there are no languages with a trial but without a dual. Argue for our decompositional account of the trial, and against a feature [trial], on the basis of this generalization.

Careful: the above does <u>not</u> imply that all languages with a dual have a trial!

Note on backgrounds to arguments. When you provide an argument, make sure you introduce the necessary background for understanding it—don't rely on your reader knowing those details. In the case at hand, that means summarising the system we've devised in class to account for grammatical number, paying particular attention to the decompositional analysis of the trial.

Note on word count. Examples, definitions, tests, etc. do not count towards the word count. You should aim for 600-700 words of prose per puzzle.