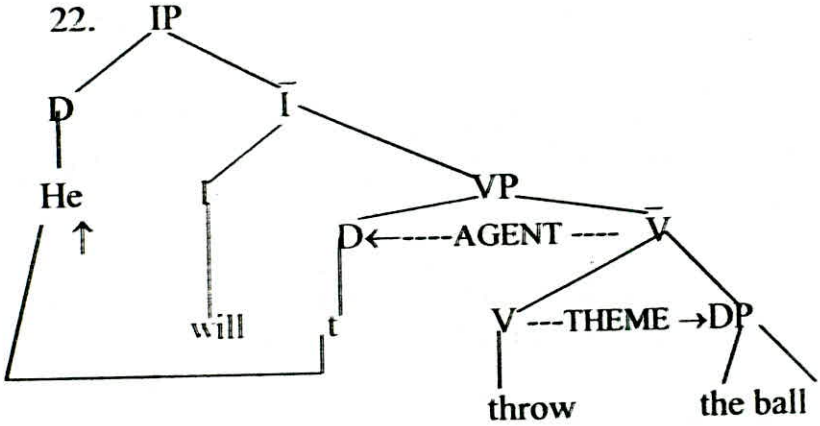
Then, when VP is merged with an I constituent containing an auxiliary such as *will* ,we form the I-bar *will throw the ball* with the subject *he* moving to spec-IP, as shown in (23).

22.



Therefore ,the **VP-internal subject hypothesis** helps account for "the fact that the thematic role of the subject is determined solely by V-bar" and for the fact that "auxiliaries play no role in the theta marking of subjects "(167), as previously shown in clausal idioms. It provides us with " a principled account for theta-marking ,whereby **arguments are theta-marked by merger with a lexical (θ - assigning) category**." (167) Similarly, according to Rothstein's (1995) **predication principle** , syntactic predicates (i.e. constituents such as I-bar) should have subjects ;but these subjects originate in Spec-VP and raise to spec-IP. The **checking theory** accounts for this subject raising in a different way. It assumes that INFL in English has strong specifier -features; and therefore requires a subject in spec-IP to check its specifier -features. It may also assume that subjects (other than PRO) carry strong case-features ,and must raise to spec-IP to check these features.