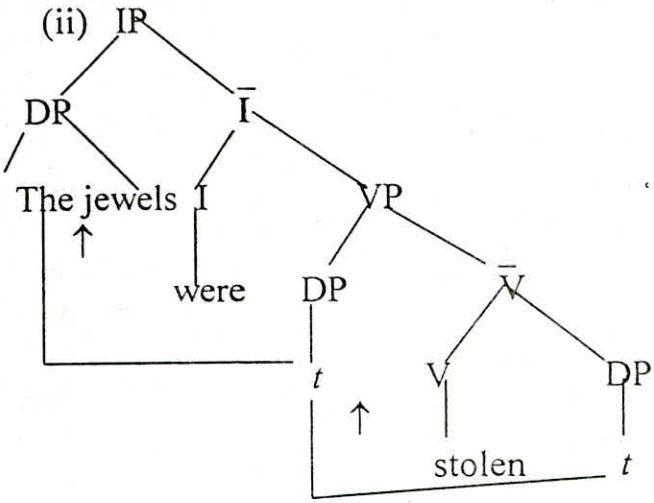

But if we assume (following Chomsky , 1981: 124-7) that "passive participles θ- mark their complements but not their subjects , it follows that the **θ-criterion** will not prevent DP *The jewels* from moving through spec-VP into spec-IP where it nonetheless has only one θ-role. That is, the passive participle suffix +*n* **absorbs** the subject θ-role, thereby **dethematizing** the passive subject position - it removes the ability of the passive participle to θ- mark its subject. Moreover, this movement is made "*necessary* by the principle of **greed**-i.e. by the need for constituents to selfishly satisfy their own morphological requirements". (190) Assuming that (pro)nominal arguments have intrinsic properties such as *he* (unlike *him*) has nominative case and that this property has to be checked at some stage in the derivation ,then it (i. e. *he*) has to occupy a nominative position at some stage in the derivation. This is achieved by its movement to spec-IP ,specially as in English passive participles are inherently intransitive ,as shown by (12).

12.

(i) *It was seen him

(ii) They saw him