

## **Question-answer word order and narrow focus**

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**Abstract:** *Narrow focus constituents, such as those contained by answers to wh-questions, have been claimed to undergo movement to syntactic positions in either the low vP periphery or the left of the sentence in some languages, mainly based on the existence of non-contrastive readings of narrow-focus ex situ (undergoing movement). This paper uses experimental data from an elicitation test involving wh-questions to investigate the strategies employed by Romanian speakers in producing this kind of structures, more specifically the word orders present in answers to wh questions and the reasons behind the possible variations in word order. Based on the data it will conclude that there is no evidence of movement triggered by purely syntactic reasons (such as feature checking) in this kind of structures in Romanian.*

**Keywords:** *information structure, focus, wh-questions, narrow-focus, clause periphery, scrambling*