Lesson 34: The "Subject"

A. What are the formal signals of the grammatical subject in Greek (§533)?
1. _____________________________________________
2. _____________________________________________

B. Diagram the following sentences from Jn 8:31-38 and identify the formal signals of the subjects by listing the head term in the nominative case and showing the agreement with the personal ending of the verb:

ex.: "Ελεγεν [οὖν] / ὦ 'Ἱσοῦς / πρὸς τοὺς... 'Ἰουδαίους... 8:31
nom.: 'Ἱσοῦς ↔ #(v) = 3. sg.

1. 'Εδὼν) ὁμεῖς μείνητε ἐν τῷ λόγῳ τῷ ἐμῷ, 8:31
2. καὶ) ἦ ἄλλωσιν ἐλευθερώσει ὁμᾶς 8:32
3. πῶς σὺ λέγεις... 8:33
4. ἀπεκρίθη αὐτοῖς ὦ 'Ἱσοῦς... 8:34
5. διὸ) πᾶς ὃ ποιῶν... δυσλόγος ἐστὶν 8:34
C. Following are S-II sentences which have two words or word groups with head terms in the nominative case. Decide which is the subject in each sentence on the basis of agreement between the person and number of the subject and the ending of the verb (§533.1). Indicate your decision by diagramming each sentence (1 = subject; 2 = verb; 3 = predicate nominative):

1. Ὑμεῖς ἐστε τὸ ἄλας τῆς γῆς Mt 5:13
2. καὶ πᾶς δοχλος πρὸς τὴν θάλασσαν... ἔσαν Mk 4:1 (cf. §538)
3. Ἐγώ οὐκ εἶμι ὁ Χριστός Jn 1:20
4. Ραββί, σὺ εἶ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ Jn 1:49
5. Ὑμεῖς [γὰρ] ναὸς θεοῦ ἐσμεν 2 Cor 6:16

D. Prepare Jn 1:19-28 for class translation.
Notes

1:19 ἵνα ἐρωτήσωσιν αὐτόν, Ἐθ τίς εἶ; ἐρωτάω is a verb which can occur in an S-VI with two accusative objects (§524). In this sentence the included direct question, Ἐθ τίς εἶ; is functioning as the second object.

1:21 Τί οὖν σύ; the linking verb, εἶ, has been omitted. The linking verb is frequently omitted from Greek type II sentences; such sentences are called "nominal sentences" (cf. §608).

1:22 εἶπαν: on the spelling, see §4122.

δῶμεν: from δίδωμι (class I.7b).

1:24 ἀπεσταλμένοι: from ἀπο-στέλλω.

1:26 ἔστηκεν: from ἔστημι (class I.7b).

ὅν ... ὁδότε: a relative clause which is serving as the subject of the finite verb, ἔστηκεν. In English, an antecedent, he, must be supplied (cf. §643.2).

1:27 δόπισω μου ἐρχόμενος: the prepositional phrase, δόπισω μου, is functioning as a modifier in first attributive position (§699.4). δ...ἐρχόμενος is in apposition to the subject of ἔστηκεν. One might also take δ...ἐρχόμενος as the subject of ἔστηκεν and "antecedent" of ὅν.

1:28 ἢν...βαπτίζων: periphrasis for the imperfect tense (cf. §568).