

Philosophy of Logic and Language
Meaning

Primary Readings

- (!) **Davidson, D., ‘Truth and Meaning’**, in Davidson, D., *Inquiries into Truth and Interpretation*, OUP, (2001). (Reprinted in Martinich).
- (!) **Grice, Paul, ‘Meaning’**, in Grice, P., *Studies in the Ways of Words*, Harvard University Press, (1991), ch. 14.
- (!) **Lewis, D., ‘Languages and Language’**, in Lewis D., *Philosophical Papers* (vol. 1), OUP (1983).
- **Quine, W.V.O., *Word and Object***, MIT Press (1960), ch.2.
- **Wiggins, D., ‘Meaning and truth conditions: From Frege’s grand design to Davidson’s’**, in Hale, B., and Wright, C. (eds), *A Companion to the Philosophy of Language*.
- **Larson and Segal, *Knowledge of Meaning: An Introduction to Semantic Theory***, MIT Press (1995), **ch. 2**. [Reprinted as ‘Knowledge of Meaning and Theories of Truth’ in Ludlow, P. (ed.), *Readings in the Philosophy of Language*, MIT Press (1997).

Background Readings:

- Lycan, W., *The Philosophy of Language*, ch. 5-10 (chapters 8 and 9 might be particularly useful).
- Platts, M., *Ways of Meaning*, chapter 2.

Questions:

- (1) How is the meaning of a sentence related to the intention of speakers?
- (2) How is the meanings of expressions related to the way in which these sentences are used by speakers of the language?
- (3) What is the relationship between meaning and truth?
- (4) What does it take to count as ‘grasping the truth conditions of a sentence’? Is it sufficient for understanding the sentence? Is it necessary?