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ADDENDUM TO “SELF-REFERENCE AND THE DIVORCE BETWEEN MEANING AND TRUTH”

Abstract. This paper is an addendum to [Tsohatzidis, 2013].

Keywords: self-reference; truth-theories; meaning-theories; compositionality; natural language semantics

It has occurred to me that some of my comments on the linguistic examples presented in “Self-reference and the divorce between meaning and truth” [Tsohatzidis, 2013] might appear puzzling to some readers, since, although the examples were tacitly assumed in the paper to be understood as occurring in speech, they are of course presented in writing.

Remote as it may be, the possibility of misunderstanding on this score would have been prevented by choosing, in the wording of the examples, a verb that, unlike the verb ‘utter’ and its synonyms, is interpreted in a way that is neutral between the spoken and the written medium.

In the inter-linguistic kind of case discussed in the paper, appropriate medium-neutral examples of sentences that have the same meaning but cannot have the same truth conditions would be sentences such as (a) and (b) below:

- (a) The sentence hereby produced is an example of an English sentence.
- (b) Der hiermit erzeugte Satz ist ein Beispiel eines englischen Satzes.

In the intra-linguistic kind of case discussed in the paper, appropriate medium-neutral examples of sentences that have the same meaning but cannot have the same truth conditions would be sentences such as (c) and (d):

- (c) The sentence hereby produced contains exactly eight words.
- (d) Exactly eight words are contained in the sentence produced hereby.

Interested readers are hereby invited to make the relevant substitutions.

References

- [Tsohatzidis, 2013] Tsohatzidis, S. L., “Self-reference and the divorce between meaning and truth”, *Logic and Logical Philosophy*, 22 (2013), 4: 445–452.
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