

Philosophy of Language Comprehensive Exam Reading List

Almost all of these papers can be found in A. P. Martinich, ed., *The Philosophy of Language* (Oxford University Press).

Frege, Gottlob. "[On Sense and Nominatum](#)" (also sometimes translated as "On Sense and Reference")

Russell, Bertrand. "On Denoting" or "Descriptions" (either one; it isn't necessary to read both)

Strawson, P. F. "[On Referring](#)"

Grice, H. P. "[Meaning](#)"

Tarski, Alfred. "[The Semantic Conception of Truth and the Foundations of Semantics](#)"

Hempel, Carl G. "[Empiricist Criteria of Cognitive Significance: Problems and Changes](#)"

Quine, W. V. "[Two Dogmas of Empiricism](#)"

Searle, John R. "[Proper Names](#)"

Kripke, Saul. "[Naming and Necessity](#)" (excerpt as published in the Martinich anthology)

Putnam, Hilary. "Meaning and Reference" or "The Meaning of 'Meaning'" (either one; it isn't necessary to read both)

Davidson, Donald. "Truth and Meaning"

Donnellan, Keith. "[Reference and Definite Descriptions](#)"

Grice, H. P. "Logic and Conversation"