

Principle of Expressibility

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This article discusses the Principle of Expressibility as formulated by John Searle. This principle is fundamental for his theory of speech acts, moreover, it appears to support Austinian contextualism. After introducing the principle, I will consider some of its implications to see how far it is useful to judge on the conflict between determinationism and contextualism.

Consciousness and the Problem of Explanatory Gap

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Consciousness is one of the most difficult problems in the philosophy of mind. There are debates about the nature and concept of consciousness as well as its place in the natural world, i.e., explaining consciousness in non-conscious terms. As to the concept of consciousness, I distinguish it from that of qualia. The explanatory problem of consciousness is whether it is a fundamental kind besides other natural kinds or emerges from non-conscious fundamental kinds. Most contemporary philosophers argue for the latter and here arises the so-called 'explanatory gap' or 'hard problem'. Ned Block believes that 'multiple realizability' is the 'harder problem'; I will see how much his problem is independent from the hard one and whether it is significantly different from it or not. In the last part of the paper, I shall briefly formulate some contemporary theories about consciousness, e.g., representationism, higher-order theories, multiple drafts model, and neural correlates of consciousness. I just present an argument for representationism from truth-conditions of appearance-based and fact-based sentences with no mention of the shortfalls of competitive theories.

Muslim Philosophers' Solution for the Soul-Body Relationship

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Body-soul relationship is one of the most important problem in philosophy. In Islamic philosophy, philosophers tried to solve this problem in terms of a mediation (sometimes called misty spirit, sometimes corporeal body) which placed between soul and body. In this paper I will discuss this approach to the problem.