

Re: My investigations into Godels Incompleteness Theorem

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MoeBlee wrote:

And we may distinguish a sentence from the proposition that the sentence expresses. The sentence is just a syntactical object – a string. The proposition expressed by the sentence is something else, which is harder to pin down. In Church's introductory chapter of his textbook, he says that a proposition is that which only synonymous sentences (even sentences not in the same language) have in common.

Here's how I have this in my notes from the Church text (his summary of Fregean notions, I think). I hope I have done justice to "scripture":

The denotation of a sentence is the truth value (either truth or falsehood) of the sentence.

The sense of a sentence is what is grasped when one understands the sentence. Put another way, the sense of a sentence is that which two sentences in different languages must have in common for the sentences to be correct translations of each other. The sense of a sentence is the proposition expressed by the sentence and is the intension of the sentence (the concept of the sentence).

That a proposition is different from a sentence is seen by considering replacing 'sentence' for 'proposition' in Lincoln's Gettysburg Address in which he mentions, "[...] a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal."

MoeBlee

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