

An *Opinionated* List
of **Recommended Readings**
for Beginning Grad Students doing Analytic Philosophy

In some cases, a supplementary secondary source is suggested, to help with understanding the primary source. One general supplementary overview is Jason Stanley's long article "Philosophy of Language in the 20th Century". You can easily find it on the web; google it. Another useful general source is Martinich and Sosa (eds.), A Companion to Analytic Philosophy.

Sometimes an example of important later follow-up work is suggested.

The readings are vaguely grouped according to topic and/or historical thread.

The few bold items are more "required" than recommended.

I have electronic copies of nearly everything here. Ask me if you need helping getting ahold of something.

1. **Frege, "On Sense and Reference"**, (1892, trans. Black and Geach)
 - 1.1. Supplementary/Follow-up: Chalmers, "On Sense and Intention" (google it)
 - 1.2. Supplementary: Gideon Makin's book, *The Metaphysicians of Meaning*.
2. **Russell, "On Denoting"** (1905, *Mind*)
 - 2.1. Follow-up: Strawson, "On Referring" (1950, *Mind*)
 - 2.2. Supplementary: Russell, "Descriptions", (ch.16 of his *Introduction to Mathematical Philosophy*)
 - 2.3. Supplementary: Again, Gideon Makin's book, *The Metaphysicians of Meaning*.
3. Marcus, "Modalities and Intensional Languages" (*Synthese*, 1961; Marcus's collection *Modalities*, OUP 1993, includes as an appendix the transcript of a public discussion of the paper in 1962 with Marcus, Quine, Kripke, and others.)
4. **Kripke, *Naming and Necessity* (1980, (orig. 1970))**
 - 4.1. Supplementary: Stalnaker, "Reference and Necessity" (in the *Blackwell Companion to the Philosophy of Language*, eds. Hale and Wright)
 - 4.2. Supplementary: Hawthorne and Gendler, "Introduction: Conceivability and Possibility", in a collection they edited, *Conceivability and Possibility*.
 - 4.3. Follow-up: Evans, "The Causal Theory of Reference" (1973, *Proceedings of Aristotelian Society*)
 - 4.4. Follow-up: Kripke, "A Puzzle about Belief" (find an anthology)

5. Quine, "On What There Is" (1948, reprinted in *From a Logical Point of View*)
6. Carnap, "Empiricism, Semantics, and Ontology" (1950, google it)
7. **Quine, "Two Dogmas of Empiricism"**, (1952, in *FLPV*)
 - 7.1. Follow-up: Grice and Strawson, "In Defense of a Dogma" (1956, *Phil Review*)
 - 7.2. Supplementary/Follow-up: Boghossian, "Analyticity", (1995, *Nous*)

- 7.3. Supplementary: Kant, *Critique of Pure Reason*, 'Introduction' A1/B1-A16/B30, and A151/B 190.
- 7.4. Supplementary: Proops, "Kant's Conception of Analytic Judgment" (2005, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*)
- 8. Quine, "Translation and Meaning" (1960, ch.2 of *Word and Object*)
 - 8.1. Supplementary/Follow-up: Quine, "Ontological Relativity" (1968, *JoP*)
 - 8.2. Supplementary: Soames, "The Philosophical Naturalism of Quine", chapters 10 and 11 of *Philosophical Analysis in the 20th Century, vol. 2*

- 9. Grice, "Meaning" (1957, collected in in Grice's *Studies in the Way of Words*)
 - 9.1. Follow-up: Grice, "Utterer's Meaning, Sentence Meaning, and Word Meaning" (1968, in Grice collection)
 - 9.2. Follow-up: Lewis, "Languages and Language"
- 10. Grice, "Logic and Conversation" (1975, in Grice collection)
 - 10.1. Supplementary: Soames, "Language use and the logic of conversation", Ch. 9 of *Philosophical Analysis in the 20th Century, vol. 2*

- 11. Davidson, "Truth and Meaning" (1967, *Synthese*; or just find it in an anthology)
 - 11.1. Follow-up: Foster, "Meaning and Truth Theory", in Evans and McDowell (eds.), *Truth and Meaning*
 - 11.2. Supplementary: Soames, "Donald Davidson on Truth and Meaning", chapters 12 and 13 of his *Philosophical Analysis in the 20th Century, vol.2*.

- 12. Putnam, "The Meaning of 'Meaning'" (1975, find it in an anthology)
 - 12.1. Follow-up: Burge, "Individualism and the Mental" (1979, find in anthology), (abridged versions found in anthologies are acceptable; Burge's paper "Other Bodies" (1982) is also an acceptable substitute, and perhaps a better introduction)
- 13. Kaplan, "Demonstratives" (1989, in *Themes from Kaplan*; written in the 70s)

- 14. Carroll, "What the Tortoise Said to Achilles" (1895, *Mind*)
- 15. **G.E. Moore, "Proof of an External World"** (abridged version acceptable, available in many epistemology anthologies, e.g. *Epistemology*, eds. Kim and E. Sosa)
 - 15.1. Follow-up: Dretske, "Epistemic Operators" (1970, *Journal of Philosophy*)
 - 15.2. Follow-up: Pryor, "What's Wrong with Moore's Argument?" (www.jimpryor.net)
- 16. Gettier, "Is Justified True Belief Knowledge?" (*Analysis*, 1963)

16.1. Follow-up: Nozick, "Knowledge and Skepticism" (originally in his book, *Philosophical Explanations*. Abridged versions available in many epistemology anthologies)

17. Goodman, "The New Riddle of Induction" (ch.3 of his book *Fact, Fiction and Forecast*)

17.1. Follow-up/Supplementary: Frank Jackson, "Grue", (1975, *JoP*)

18. Prior, "The Runabout Inference-Ticket, (1960, *Analysis*)

19. Lewis, "An Argument for the Identity Theory" (1966, *Journal of Philosophy*)

20. Putnam, "The Nature of Mental States" (1967, find in an anthology)

20.1. Supplementary: Block, "What is Functionalism?" (google his website)

20.2. Follow-up: Either Block, "Troubles for Functionalism" (find an abridged version in an anthology), or Searle, "Minds, Brains and Programs"

21. Nagel, "What is it Like to Be a Bat?" (1974, *Phil Review*)

22. Jackson, "Epiphenomenal Qualia" (1982, *Philosophical Quarterly*)

23. Stevenson, "The Emotive Meaning of Ethical Terms" (1937, *Mind*)

23.1. Follow-up: Either Geach, "Assertion" (1965, *Phil Review*), or Searle "Meaning and Speech Acts" (1962, *Phil Review*)

24. Rawls, ch.1 of *A Theory of Justice*

24.1. Follow-up: Nozick, *Anarchy, State, Utopia*

25. Harman, "Ethics and Observation", (ch.1 of *The Nature of Morals*)

26. Mackie, "The Subjectivity of Value", (ch.1 of *Ethics*)

27. Foot, "Morality as a System of Hypothetical Imperatives", (1972, *Phil. Review*)

28. Gibbard or Blackburn, on expressivism (e.g., Gibbard's *Precis of Wise Choices, Apt Feelings*, 1993, *Philosophical Issues*)

29. Thompson, "A Defense of Abortion", (1971, *Philosophy and Public Affairs*)

30. Singer, "Famine, Affluence, and Morality" (1972, *Philosophy and Public Affairs*)

ITEMS BELOW MAY BE, FOR SOME STUDENTS, LESS URGENT;
THEY'RE ALSO LONGER READS:

31. Wittgenstein, *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*

31.1. Supplementary: Proops, "Wittgenstein's Logical Atomism" (2007, *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*)

31.2. Supplementary: Sullivan, "A Version of the Picture Theory" (google around for Peter Sullivan's homepage)

32. Wittgenstein, the first 300 sections or so of *Philosophical Investigations*

- 32.1. Supplementary: Reviews by Ayer (1954, *PAS*) and Strawson (1954, *Mind*)
- 33. Kripke, *Wittgenstein on Rules and Private Language*
- 33.1. Supplementary: Boghossian, "The Rule-Following Considerations" (1989, *Mind*)

- 34. Sellars, "Empiricism and the Philosophy of Mind" (1956)
- 34.1. Supplementary: Brandom's Study Guide
- 34.2. Follow-up: McDowell, *Mind and World* (maybe just the first 50 pages)

- 35. Anscombe, *Intention* (1957)
- 36. Davidson, "Actions, Reasons, and Causes" (1963, *JoP*)