

M.A. Examination, 2015
Semester – IV
Philosophy
Paper : XXVIII (Special Paper)
Philosophy of Language (Unit-II)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin.

Answer *any four* questions

1. Explain Russell's description theory of ordinary proper names. Discuss in this connection the puzzle of negative existential statements. 5+5=10
 2. How does Strawson try to establish that an utterance of 'The present king of France is bold' may give rise to neither truth nor falsity? 10
 3. Give an account of Searle's cluster theory of proper names. 10
 4. Distinguish, after Donnellan, between referential and attributive use of definite description. How does he use this distinction to criticise Russell's theory of definite descriptions? 7+3=10
 5. How does Kripke distinguish between rigid designators and non-rigid designators? Why does he maintain that Russellian descriptions are non-rigid designators? Discuss. 7+3=10
 6. Give example of an exceptional case where a proper name does not behave like a rigid designator. Does this exceptional case refute Kripke's view of proper names? 6+4=10
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