

Preface to the second edition

In this second edition I have added several new sections, cleaned up the original text considerably, and updated the guides to further reading at the end of each chapter. The presentation of Kripke's Wittgenstein, in particular, has been modified to take into account the complexities brought to light by the "factualist" interpretation pioneered by George Wilson and David Davies (although in the end I argue against the factualist interpretation in §5.7). Since the preparation of the first edition, a number of excellent resources for the philosophy of language have been published: *A Companion to Philosophy of Language* (Oxford: Blackwell 1997), edited by Bob Hale and Crispin Wright, *The Blackwell Guide to the Philosophy of Language* (Oxford: Blackwell 2006), edited by Michael Devitt and Richard Hanley, and *A Handbook of Philosophy of Language* (Oxford: Oxford University Press 2006), edited by Ernest LePore and Barry C. Smith. I mention a few of the constituent articles in these volumes in the further reading and in the footnotes, but I'd like to take this opportunity to recommend them generally: they are the essential next port-of-call following the present text for all serious students and researchers in the philosophical study of language. In addition, Alessandra Tanesini's *Philosophy of Language A–Z* (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press 2007) is an excellent resource.

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