

Semantics of Scientific Theories:
Study Questions for Lecture 3, “Carnap I (Apr. 28)”

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1. Think of all the pragmatic considerations that enter into the choice of a linguistic framework: is such a choice really as trivial as many commentators and critics would have one believe?
2. Why is the observable-unobservable distinction important for Carnap? What would be lost to his account without it? Are there other, similar, perhaps more reasonable distinctions he could rely on?
3. Why do correspondence rules not provide definitions of theoretical terms?
4. What work does the introduction of the Ramsey Sentence do in our understanding of the structure and semantics of scientific theories?

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