Let us know when you want to take the exam. We will select six of these and ask that four of the six be answered on the exam. You can also ahead of time suggest a possible question for us to ask. You might have a day or two to write the exam.

1. Critically discuss the principle of semantic compositionality.

2. Explain Montague’s analysis of ordinary language quantifiers and critically discuss the advantages and disadvantages of that analysis.

3. Critically discuss the claim that \(\text{and}\) can be given a uniform truth functional semantic interpretation and that the appearance that it sometimes means \(\text{and then}\) can be explained pragmatically.

4. Consider sentences such as the following:

   (1) I prefer Paul sober to Paul drunk.

   What sort of semantic analysis of such sentences would appeal to a metaphysics of time-slices? What alternative analyses are there? Are there reasons for preferring one analysis to the others?

5. Consider sentences like the following:

   (2) Necessarily, if Jack went to the party, he did not finish his paper.
   (3) Possibly, George went to the party after finishing his paper.

   What difference if any is there between an analysis that treats modal adverbs in such sentences as nonextensional operators and an analysis that treats them as adverbs of quantification over possible worlds? Is one of those analyses better than the other?

6. It seems that (6) implies (7) but (4) does not in the same way imply (5). Why?

   (4) Jack is fairly tall.
   (5) Jack is not really tall.
   (6) This field is fairly flat.
7. Critically discuss the theory that definite and indefinite noun phrases, proper names, and pronouns that follow the copula to be are predicates and so not “arguments”.

(8) Jack is a man of many talents.
(9) Jack is the man I was telling you about.
(10) Jack is John Rawls.
(11) (I confess,) Jack is me.

8. Critically discuss Pryor’s suggestion that there is a single semantic interpretation of quantified (non-generic, non-bare) noun phrases that works for both singular and plural noun phrases?

9. The following sentence appears to be ambiguous between a distributive and a collective interpretation.

(12) Alice, Samantha, and Betty weigh less than 400 pounds.

What is a plausible explanation of this ambiguity?

10. Critically discuss Carlson’s theory that bare plural subjects refer to kinds.

11. Consider the following judgments about the truth or falsity of these sentences interpreted generically. How might these judgments be explained?

(13) T Beavers build dams.
(14) T Lions have manes.
(15) T Bulgarians are good weight lifters.
(16) F Books are paperbacks.
(17) F Bees are sexually sterile.

12. Is there a generic restricted quantifier $G$ such that (18) can be analyzed as (19), where $G$ applies to the two pair of predicates $A$ and $B$ (and similarly (20) is analyzed as (21)?

(18) As are Bs.
(19) $(G A) (B)$.
(20) Dutchmen are good sailors.
(21) $(G$ Dutchmen) (good sailors).