MIDTERM STUDY SHEET

PHILOSOPHY OF
LANGUAGE

The midterm will consist primarily of short answer questions not unlike the questions on the first parts of your problem sets. You will also be asked to answer some slightly longer "long answer" questions which should be answerable in the space of 4–5 sentences. Here are some concepts that may be tested.

Frege's Two Puzzles	Use v. Mention
Sense v. Reference v. Conception	Entailment
Intensional v. Extensional Contexts	(Fregean) Thoughts
Indirect Senses/Referents	Intentionality
Logical Form	Types v. Tokens
Semantics, Foundational Semantics	Content
Necessary v. Sufficient Conditions	Factivity
Natural v. Non-natural meaning	Russellian Acquaintance
Sentence/word v. Utterance v. Speaker meaning	Propositions
Truth-conditional Propositions	Fregean Propositions
Russellian Propositions	Possible Worlds

Some things you should be able to explain or be able to do:

How Frege's sense/reference distinction resolves his two puzzles

How Russell's new theory of denoting resolves his three puzzles about referring

What Russell's theory of acquaintance is, and why he uses it

How to give the informal Russellian logical form of a sentence containing definite descriptions

How to understand scope ambiguities involving definite descriptions (according to Russell)

How to tell an intensional from an extensional context, and whether an expression is factive

What Grice's project is in "Meaning" and how he tries to execute it

      (for example, what does he analyze into what, why, and what does it show us?)

How to represent, and interpret truth-conditions of sentences using venn diagrams in logical space

To identify an author from a characteristic passage we read for class