Abstract

Tarski’s definition of truth established the legitimacy and the importance of truth in philosophy, providing basis for all further theories of truth. Ironically, it also gave an inspiration to the theories denying truth its central role, namely, to deflationism. Using Tarski’s equivalence schema, deflationists construct theories stating that the function of the truth predicate is to express certain infinite conjunctions and disjunctions, which it does by undoing the effect of quotation marks. They use the truth predicate to generalize over sentence positions even if the variables are pronominal. Finally, they hold that the universal statements have the same sense as the infinite conjunctions of their instances. But they do not. Therefore, I will show that Tarski’s critique regarding the redundancy theory applies to every deflationary theory of truth.