

Geschiedenis van de logica 2008/09

Worksheet voor het college van 06-05-2009

1. Geef de logische vorm van de volgende argumenten aan

(uit A. Prior, "What is logic", in *Papers in Logic and Ethics*, London 1976, pp. 122–129.)

- A (1) If Polly is an animal then Polly is an animal.
(2) If Polly is a feathered animal then Polly is an animal.
(3) If all feathered animals breathe air then what does not breathe air is not a feathered animal.
- B (1) If Polly is a feathered animal she breathes air.
(2) If Polly has feelings, I am obliged to treat her kindly.
(3) If Polly isn't my parrot, she's Peter's.
- C (1) If there are parrots, there will always have been parrots.
(2) If I know that Polly breathes air, she does breathe air.
(3) If I am obliged to treat Polly kindly, then I am not obliged not to treat Polly kindly.
(4) If it is not possible for Polly not to be a parrot, then it is possible for her to be a parrot.

2. Hoe zou je de logische vorm van "natural-historical judgments" uitleggen?

M. Thompson, *Life and Action*, Cambridge MA 2008, p. 20:

[I]n the discussion of life, much will turn on the status of so-called *natural-historical judgments* and the connected systems into which such judgments are fitted to enter [...]. Natural-historical judgments can be formulated in human languages in diverse ways, for example, "bobcats breed in spring" or "the domestic cat has four legs" or "it belongs to a Texas bluebonnet to carry nitrogen-fixing bacteria in nodes on its roots." The judgments just expressed evidently differ in content, but they intuitively share something as well—and this, I think, cannot be shoehorned under any Fregean rubric. I will argue for the naive view that thoughts expressed in these sentences exhibit a common form of predication: I am thinking "of" *bobcat* or *bobcats* or *the bobcat* in the first judgment—it doesn't matter how you say it [...].

- 2.a Geef drie voorbeelden voor zulke zinnen in het Nederlands.
2.b Is er iets mis met een gewone eerste-orde-logica analyse van de zinnen?
2.c De *natural-historical judgments* zijn in een bepaalde zin algemeen. Hoe instantieer je ze?