

Please read carefully the assigned reading and then answer the questions below, referring back as needed. Bring your answers to class and hand them to me.

1. Why was making a distinction between observational and theoretical parts of language important to logical positivism? How is this related to empiricism?
2. What is the difference between an analytic and synthetic statement? Give an example of each. How was the analytic/synthetic distinction useful to logical positivism?
3. Give an example of a sentence that would be meaningless according to the verifiability theory of meaning.
4. Here are two quotes from the introduction to Ernst Mach's (1897) book *The Analysis of Sensations, and the relation of the physical to the psychical*. How do they relate to the logical positivist ideas discussed by PGS in §2.3? (There may be disanalogies as well as analogies.)

"The frequent excursions which I have made into this province have all sprung from the profound conviction that the foundations of science as a whole, and of physics in particular, await their next greatest elucidations from the side of biology, and especially, from the analysis of the sensations."

"One and the same view underlies both my epistemological-physical writings and my present attempt to deal with the physiology of the senses—the view, namely, that all metaphysical elements are to be eliminated as superfluous and as destructive of the economy of science."