## Making It Explicit

## Reasoning, Representing, and Discursive Commitment

Robert B. Brandom

Harvard University Press Cambridge, Massachusetts London, England 1994

## **Contents**

Preface	хi
PART ONE	
1. Toward a Normative Pragmatics	3
I. Introduction	3
II. From Intentional State to Normative Status	7
III. From Norms Explicit in Rules to Norms Implicit in Practices	18
IV. From Normative Status to Normative Attitude	30
V. From Assessment to the Social Institution of Norms	46
VI. From Intentional Interpretation to Original Intentionality	55
Appendix: Wittgenstein's Use of Regel	64
2. Toward an Inferential Semantics	67
I. Content and Representation	67
II. The Priority of the Propositional	79
III. Conceptual Classification and Inference	85
IV. Material Inference, Conceptual Content, and Expression	94
V. Circumstances and Consequences of Application	116
VI. Conclusion	132

3. Linguistic Practice and Discursive Commitment	141
I. Intentional States and Linguistic Practices	141
II. Deontic Status and Deontic Attitudes	157
III. Asserting and Inferring	167
IV. Scorekeeping: Pragmatic Significance and Semantic Content	180
4. Perception and Action: The Conferral of Empirical and	
Practical Conceptual Content	199
I. Assertions as Knowledge Claims	199
II. Reliability	206
III. Observation Reports and Noninferential Authority	213
IV. Rational Agency	229
V. Practical Reasoning: Inferences from Doxastic	
to Practical Commitments	243
VI. Intentions	253
PART TWO	
5. The Expressive Role of Traditional Semantic Vocabulary:	
'True' and 'Refers'	275
I. From Inference to Truth, Reference, and Representation	275
II. Truth in Classical Pragmatism	285
III. From Pragmatism to Prosentences	299
IV. Reference and Anaphorically Indirect Descriptions	305
V. The Function of Traditional Semantic Vocabulary Is	
Expressive, Not Explanatory	322
6. Substitution: What Are Singular Terms, and Why Are There Any?	334
I. Multivalued Logic and Material Inference	334
II. Substitution, Sentential Embedding, and Semantic Roles	346
III. Subsentential Expressions	360
IV. What Are Singular Terms?	367
V. Why Are There Singular Terms?	376
VI. Objections and Replies	384
VII. Conclusion	399
Appendix I: From Substitutional Derivation of Categories	
to Functional Derivation of Categories	404
Appendix II: Sentence Use Conferring the Status of Sin-	
gular Terms on Subsentential Expressions—An Application	409
7. Anaphora: The Structure of Token Repeatables	413
I. Frege's Grundlagen Account of Picking Out Objects	413
II. Definite Descriptions and Existential Commitments	432
III. Substitution, Token Recurrence, and Anaphora	449
IV. Deixis and Anaphora	459

655

717

Notes

Index