Analytic Philosophy: A Very Short Introduction
Michael Beaney

Analytical List of Contents

Introduction
   Philosophical questions
   Thought-thinking

1  How many things are there?
   Things and kinds of things
   Introducing Gottlob Frege
   Objects and concepts
   Extensions of concepts
   What are the natural numbers?
   Can there be a set of all objects?
   Infinity
   Beyond infinity
   So how many things are there?

2  How can we speak of what does not exist?
   Existential statements
   Does a perfect God exist?
   Introducing Bertrand Russell
   Russell’s paradox
   Responding to Russell’s paradox
   Do average people exist?
   The theory of descriptions
   So how can we speak of what does not exist?

3  Do you know what I mean?
   Interpretive analysis
   Introducing G. E. Moore
   Can ‘good’ be defined?
   How can analyses be both correct and informative?
   Sense and reference
   So do you know what I mean?
4 Are there limits to what we can say and think?
Some difficulties in saying things
Introducing Ludwig Wittgenstein
Saying and showing
What is it to say something?
Sense and senselessness
Can nonsense show anything?
Is metaphysics nonsense?
So are there limits to what we can say or think?

5 How can we think more clearly?
Taking stock
Introducing Susan Stebbing
A sensible view of metaphysics?
Thinking to some purpose
Logical thinking
Critical thinking
So how can we think more clearly?

6 So what is analytic philosophy?
Analysing ‘analysis’
Introducing later analytic philosophy
Ordinary language philosophy
Ideal language philosophy and scientific philosophy
How did analytic philosophy get its name?
Analytic and continental philosophy
What is wrong with analytic philosophy?
So what is good about analytic philosophy?