

1. 'A sentence is the expression of a thought.' - Discuss with reference to Frege's essay 'On Concept and Object' and Wittgenstein's picture theory in the 'Tractatus'.

One word alone cannot communicate enough to make a story. The concept of one object has to interact with another object or concept to make the story complete. Both Frege and Wittgenstein try to explain the way a word contributes to a meaningful sentence. The word 'I' or 'table' alone cannot comprise a complete story. If I am taking a rest on the sofa at home with my wife and suddenly I say the word 'I' or 'table' alone, it is meaningless. My wife will ask 'Are you okay?' or 'What?' or 'What do you mean?' But if I say 'I like that table', speaking a complete sentence, then I communicate my complete thought.

Frege used mathematics to explain how the sentence works. The relation between object and predicate can be in symmetry or in an equal relationship, such as 'Worapol is Worapol', 'W=W' or '5=5'. We can inspect in the sentence itself to conclude that it true or false. Another unequal form is 'Worapol is Network Administrator', 'W=A' or '2+3=5'. This second form we cannot tell by just inspecting the sentence itself. We have to go out and check for more information. So, this relationship between an object (Worapol) and predicate (is Network Administrator) make the sentence 'truth' because Worapol really is a Network Administrator. Each fragment alone risks bringing falseness to the sentence. The fragment '... is Network Administrator' alone is a false sentence. It is the same idea as writing the mathematic equation as '... =3'. It is false and not valid.

Frege explains this by example of a mathematical formula in which I input the object and receive a concept as the result. This is one way to understand how a sentence works; inputting some words into a certain formula will have the effect of making a sentence. We can get different results based on different input values. For example, I have function  $f(x) = x^2$ . So if I give '4' as an input, after passing through this function process, the result I receive is '8'. In the same way, in the sentence, if I input a word into the larger equation, then I will receive a more meaningful complete sentence.

For example, if I have a fragment of a sentence 'If ...goes to school then he will have good future' and I put the word 'Worapol' into this fragment (or function), I will receive the meaning of this sentence as 'If Worapol goes to school then he will have good future'. The result will change based on the input I give to the function. If I put the word 'My friend' to this function, then, as a result, the meaning of this sentence will change.

If I have two fragments of a sentence -- '...go home...' and '...goes home...' -- I can provide four phrases of input: 'Worapol', 'early', 'My wife', and 'early'. The result will be a meaningful sentence: 'I go home early and my wife goes home early'. Then the result meaning of this combination will be a positive story. Instead of finding 'and' in the fragment I find 'but', I can change the meaning of the sentence by changing my input. For example, I can input the word 'late' so the sentence reads 'Worapol goes home early but my wife goes home late'. Now the result of this meaning will be a negative story.

Wittgenstein spoke of the masking concept of words in a sentence. It is the same idea as a mask that covers our face by showing some part of our face such as our eyes or mouth. The same mask can be put on various faces and give us a different look. We can take the masking part of a sentence and can use this in many situations to give the sentence different meanings. I can have some part of a sentence like '...wants to go to...' and I can use it in many situations and give it different results.

For example, I can put 'Worapol' and 'school' in to this picture (mask) and make the sentence 'Worapol wants to go to school'. In another situation, if I put 'My dog' and 'the playground' into this picture, then I will receive a different meaning: 'My dog wants to go to the playground'. With this feature, I can use this as the mask that I can wear or put on different faces, giving a different look for each face.

I think both Frege and Wittgenstein use different methods or models to communicate similar ideas on how to make meaningful sentences. But both make some rule that can be used with many conditions, giving more variety as a result. By a logical way of thinking, we can communicate different concepts from one object. For example, the object 'human' can be expressed in the concept of 'Worapol' or 'Network Administrator of Diakrit company' or 'Husband of Mrs. Jutamard'. Using the quality of the same object, we can choose different words as input in Frege's function or Wittgenstein's mask.

I think sentences are the way we explain the nature of complete thoughts. Everything has its own unit of thought; the individual human is one unit (one man), or the tree has one unit (one tree). These subjects or units have their own property or quality. For example, the tree has colour, kind, and size. Other subjects have their own qualities. If, for example, I only have a tree in my mind, it is not enough to communicate. But if I have picture of the big green tree in my mind, that is much more interesting to communicate with others.