

Wim van der Loo

About language,
sentences, words and
signs

Thinking as a formal system

© 2018 Wim van der Loo

Uitgave van Mosae Verbo

Mosae Verbo is een imprint van Boekenplan

www.boekenplan.nl

ISBN 978 90 8666 443 6

All rights reserved.

This publication is protected by Copyright and permission should be obtained from the editor prior to any prohibited reproduction, storage in a retrieval system, or transmission in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or likewise.

To Renée, Greetje, Maxie, Piet and Frits

Gerus van den Boomen, philosopher: thanks for your encouragement to continue onto the philosophical path.

Ruud Heesen, philosopher and chemist: thanks for commenting on the first versions of this booklet.

Thanks to the visitors of my presentations; you were willing to listen to- and discuss the progressions of my insights; every meeting gave me ideas for a better expression of that I wanted to give insight to.

Index

1	Introduction	13
1.1	Central processing unit, computer program and ability to think	13
1.2	Formal way of reading, a sentence	14
1.3	Ability to sight and ability to read	15
1.4	Reference to the external world	16
1.5	Closed ability to think, speak, read and write	16
2	Dictionary; origin of a language; origin of a script; grammar, semantics, syntax, etymology	17
2.1	Dictionary	17
2.2	Origin of a language	17
2.3	Origin of a script	18
2.4	Grammar, semantics, syntax, etymology	20
3	Logic, arithmetic, mathematics	23
3.1	Domain logic, arithmetic and mathematics	23
3.2	Description of a sign and reference to a sign	23
3.3	Paradoxes	24
3.4	Sets	27
3.5	Computability	29
4	Science	35
4.1	Argument from proof by contradiction	35
4.2	DNA and ability to think; taxonomy	36
4.3	Description of time and reference in time	38
4.4	Description of space and reference in space	39
4.5	Space and time	40
4.6	Uncertainty principle	42
5	Myself	45
	References	51

In my younger days, I was fascinated by exact science, the scientist in humans exploring and analysing heaven and earth. Human ingenuity in technique, exact science as a contribution to relieve human existence. This fascination did gradually change into horror: man himself appears to be scientifically explainable. Exact science offered me, as a rationalist, no more room for humanity, the fascination became a deep mental suffering as a result of findings of scientists; humanity for me meant suffering from the meaninglessness of life resulting from exact science. Exact science can not have the final answer regarding humanity: the ability to think closes out.

Wim van der Loo

1 Introduction

1.1 Central processing unit, computer program and ability to think

The ability to think lies decided in *myself*, because *I* think: what *I* think lies decided in *myself*.

The ability to think in *myself* is given, because *I* think: what *I* think is given.

The ability to read lies decided in *myself*, because *I* read: what *I* read lies decided in *myself*.

The ability to read lies decided in *myself*, because *I* read; what *I* read lies decided in *myself*: 'A central processing unit is the electronic circuitry within a computer that carries out the instructions of a computer program.' lies decided in *myself*.

Would the ability to think in *myself* be conceived as a central processing unit, then there is a central processing unit thinking¹, decided in *my* body.

The ability to read lies decided in *myself*, because *I* read; what *I* read lies decided in *myself*; 'A computer program is a collection of instructions that performs specific task when executed by a computer' lies decided in *myself*: the ability to read in *myself* is demonstrable and insightful through a language such as this language and through a script such as this script.

The ability to read lies decided in *myself*, because *I* read; what *I* read lies decided in *myself*: "A computer program is given for a computer': a computer is unable to prove the origin of a computer program." lies decided in *myself*.

I can not call upon *myself* not being able to read, because *I* read: the ability to read in *myself* is given; the meaning that lies decided

¹ What *I* think *I* can speak; what *I* think *I* can write; what *I* read *I* can speak and write: the ability to think, speak, read and write is *one* ability; there is a processor thinking, speech, reading and writing, decided in *my* body.

in the letters of the words *I* read is given, because *I* read words; *I* am unable to prove the meaning that lies decided in the letters of the words *I* read².

1.2 Formal way of reading, a sentence

The ability to read lies decided in *myself*, because *I* read: what *I* read lies decided in *myself*.

In the words *I* read letters and meaning are decided: *I* can not distinguish the words *I* read in letters and meaning³.

I read *letter*. In the letters *letter* lies the meaning *letter* decided: *I* can not describe *letter*; *letter* consists of letters and meaning.

I read *meaning*. In the letters *meaning* lies the meaning *meaning* decided: *I* can not describe *meaning*; *meaning* consists of letters and meaning.

I read *word*. In the letters *word* lies the meaning *word* decided: *I* can not describe *word*; *word* consists of letters and meaning;

(1) *word* can not be described

The ability to read in *myself* is given, because *I* read: the meaning that lies decided in the letters of the words *I* read is given; *I* can not prove the meaning that lies decided in the letters of the words *I* read, it is given;

(2) *word* is unprovable

From the meaning of the letters *word* follows the meaning of the letter *w*:

(3) *w* can not describe *word*

I read *w*. In the letter *w* lies the meaning *w* decided: *I* can not describe *w*; *w* consists of letter and meaning:

² What *I* think *I* can speak: *I* am unable to prove the meaning that lies decided in the speech sound of the words *I* speak;
What *I* think *I* can write: *I* am unable to prove the meaning that lies decided in the letters of the words *I* write.

³ What *I* think *I* can speak; in the words *I* speak meaning and speech sound are decided: *I* can not distinguish the words *I* speak in speech sound and meaning;
What *I* think *I* can write; in the words *I* write letters and meaning are decided: *I* can not distinguish the words *I* write in letters and meaning.

(4) *w* can not be described

The ability to read in *myself* is given, because *I* read: the meaning that lies decided in the letter *I* read is given; *I* can not prove the meaning that lies decided in the letter *I* read, it is given;

(5) *w* is unprovable⁴

The ability to read lies decided in *myself*, because *I* read; what *I* read lies decided in *myself*: a sentence lies decided in *myself*.

A sentence:

w can not be described⁽⁴⁾; *A* can not be described⁽⁴⁾;

w is unprovable⁽⁵⁾; *A* is unprovable⁽⁵⁾;

word can not be described⁽¹⁾; *sentence* can not be described⁽¹⁾;

word is unprovable⁽²⁾; *sentence* is unprovable⁽²⁾;

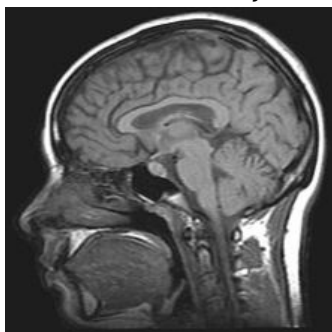
A sentence is unprovable^(1, 2, 4, 5).

1.3 Ability to sight and ability to read

The ability to sight lies decided in *myself*, because *I* see: what *I* see lies decided in *myself*.

I can not call upon *myself* not being able to see this sentence, because *I* see this sentence: the ability to sight in *myself* is given; what *I* see is given.

'The ability to read lies decided in *myself*, because *I* read: what *I* read lies decided in *myself*' can not be read in *myself*:



⁴ Way of reading (1-5) is referred to as *formal way of reading*

This conclusion follows from the given ability to sight: do *I* put the ability to sight to the question, then *I* put to the question the meaning that lies decided in the letters of the words *I* read⁵.

What *I* think *I* can speak; what *I* think *I* can write; what *I* read *I* can speak and write: the ability to think, speak, read and write is *one* ability, decided in *my* body.

The ability to read in *myself* is demonstrable and insightful through a language such as this language and through a script such as this script: a language such as this language and a script such as this script is invisible in *myself*.

1.4 Reference to the external world

The ability to read lies decided in *myself*, because *I* read; what *I* read lies decided in *myself*: *an apple, a computer, the planet Mars* lies decided in *myself*.

An apple, a computer, the planet Mars refer to the external world: *I* can unprovable refer to the external world; what *I* read lies decided in *myself*; the external world lies decided in *myself*.

1.5 Closed ability to think, speak, read and write

The ability to read lies decided in *myself*, because *I* read; what *I* read lies decided in *myself*; what *I* think *I* can speak lies decided in *myself*; what *I* think *I* can write lies decided in *myself*; what *I* read *I* can speak and write lies decided in *myself*: the ability to think, speak, read and write is closed.

⁵ The ability to hear lies decided in *myself*, because *I* hear: what *I* hear lies decided in *myself*.

I can not call upon *myself* not being able to hear the meaning that lies decided in the speech sound of the words *I* hear: the ability to hear in *myself* is given; what *I* hear is given; do *I* put the ability to hear to the question, then *I* put to the question the meaning that lies decided in the speech sound of the words *I* hear.