

Class One: Introduction

Doing Things with Words - Ryan Simonelli

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1 Some Examples of Our Topic

- **Michael Scott's Declaration of Bankruptcy:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C-m3RtoguAQ&ab>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T.d3teq6pWw>
- **Brandom's Three Umpires:**
 - First Umpire: I calls 'em as I sees 'em.
 - Second Umpire: I calls 'em as they is.
 - Third Umpire: Until I calls 'em, they ain't.
- **Ordering People:** <https://youtu.be/n3DSSGWisgk?t=37>
- **How's it going?** <https://youtu.be/5pw9ZN8SOes?t=9>
- **Catcalling:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b1XGPvbWn0A>
- **The Speech Act that (Purportedly) Changed Wittgenstein's Conception of Language:**

"Wittgenstein and P. Sraffa, a lecturer in economics at Cambridge, argued together a great deal over the ideas of the Tractatus. One day (they were riding, I think, on a train) when Wittgenstein was insisting that a proposition and that which it describes must have the same 'logical form', the same 'logical multiplicity', Sraffa made a gesture, familiar to Neapolitans as meaning something like disgust or contempt, of brushing the underneath of his chin with an outward sweep of the finger-tips of one hand. And he asked: 'What is the logical form of that?' Sraffa's example produced in Wittgenstein the feeling that there was an absurdity in the insistence that a proposition and what it describes must have the same 'form'. This broke the hold on him of the conception that a proposition must literally be a 'picture' of the reality it describes," (Malcolm, 58-59).