

The logical form of psychological reports

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I present a unified view of the form and interpretation of indirect, direct, mixed, and attitude reports which results from combining and subtly modifying Davidson's accounts of action sentences, indirect reports, and quotations. The view provides a solution to substitution problems from Frege and Prior while maintaining semantic innocence and respecting Davidson's view that semantic and inferentially relevant structure should correspond. Although arrived at by different lines of consideration, this view has resonances with views recently elaborated by linguists. This result should be of independent interest. It should also be of interest to scholars of Davidson inasmuch as it helps to clarify and vindicate Davidson's thoughts about logical form and the proper methodology for semantic theorizing.