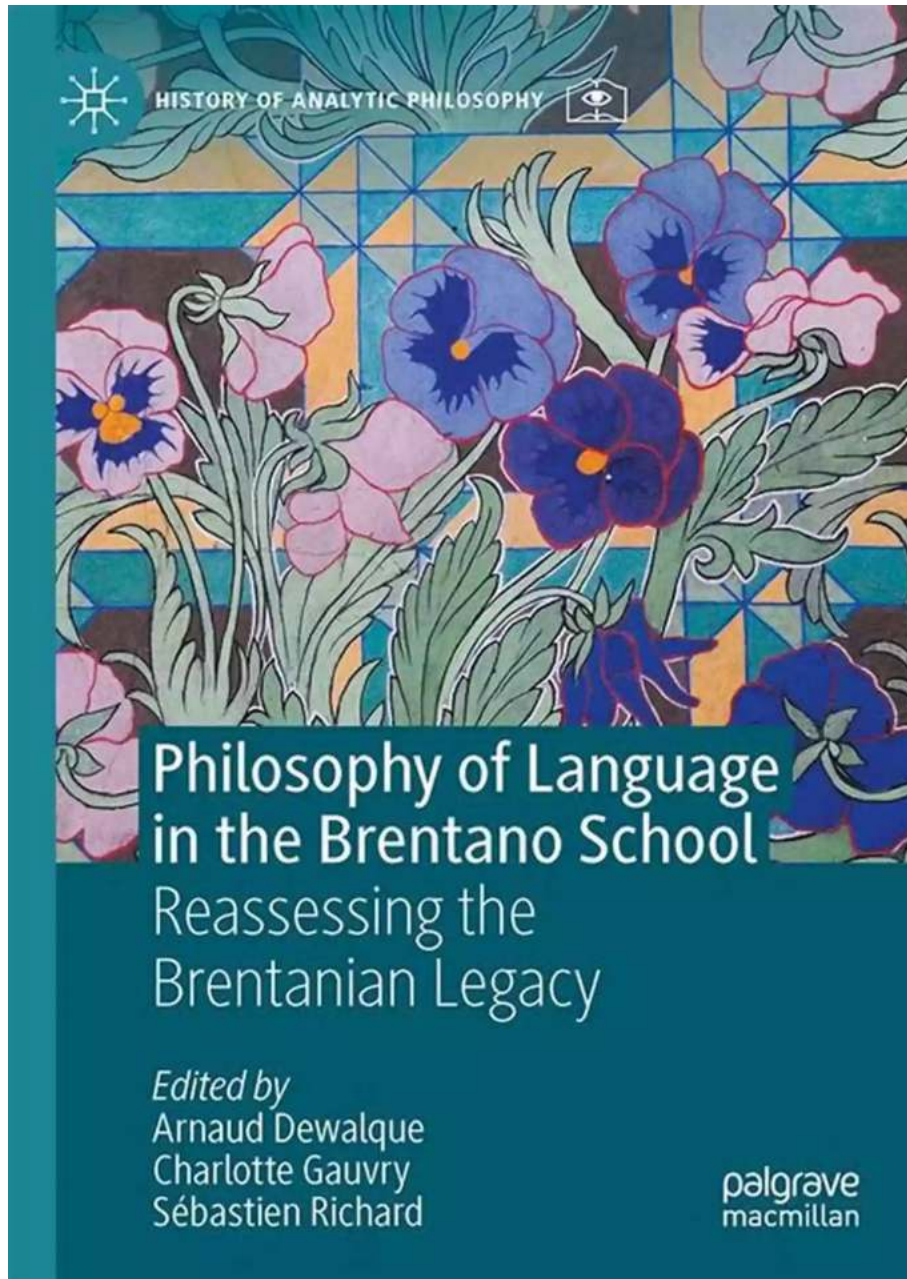


# The Fascinating Philosophy of Language in the Brentano School

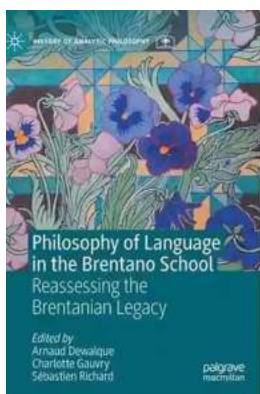


The Brentano School, also known as the Brentano-Marty School, refers to a group of philosophers influenced by the teachings of Franz Brentano and Anton Marty in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. This philosophical movement

primarily discussed intentionalism and phenomenology, but it also made significant contributions to the field of philosophy of language.

## What is Philosophy of Language?

Philosophy of language is a branch of philosophy that examines the nature, properties, and meaning of language. It explores questions related to language use, understanding, interpretation, and communication. The Brentano School played a crucial role in shaping the philosophy of language as we know it today.



### Philosophy of Language in the Brentano School: Reassessing the Brentanian Legacy (History of Analytic Philosophy)

by Alice Sten(1st ed. 2021 Edition, Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 2312 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Print length : 420 pages



## The Influence of Brentano on Philosophy of Language

Franz Brentano, a leading figure of the Brentano School, proposed a theory of intentionality that has profound implications for the philosophy of language. According to Brentano, all mental states are intentional, meaning they are directed toward an object or have an inherent content. This concept revolutionized the understanding of language use and meaning.

One of the most significant contributions of Brentano's theory is its distinction between natural and intentional meanings. Natural meanings are conveyed through physical signals, like smoke indicating fire. Intentional meanings, on the other hand, are derived from mental acts and expressed through language. This differentiation helps philosophers understand how language represents and conveys meanings in a unique and intentional manner.

## **Anton Marty's Theory of Language**

Anton Marty, another influential member of the Brentano School, expanded on Brentano's ideas and developed his own theory of language. Marty focused on the relationship between language and thought, delving into the intricacies of meaning and reference.

In his theory, Marty emphasized the importance of context in understanding and interpreting language. He argued that meaning is not solely determined by individual words or symbols but is rather a product of the context in which they are used. This notion paved the way for the study of pragmatics, which investigates how meaning is influenced by factors such as social, cultural, and situational context.

## **The Pragmatics Revolution**

The ideas put forth by the Brentano School, particularly Brentano's theory of intentionality and Marty's focus on context, sparked a revolution in the philosophy of language. They challenged traditional views that language only served to describe or represent the external world.

Philosophers began to explore the idea that language not only reflects reality but actively shapes our perception and understanding of it. The study of pragmatics

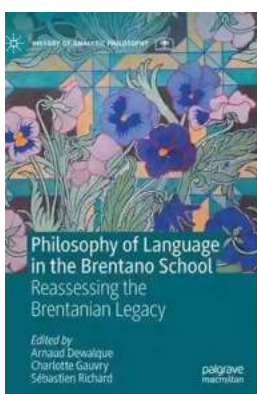
gained prominence as it offered a framework to analyze how language is used in different contexts and how meaning is constructed through social interactions.

## Relevance Today

The philosophy of language developed within the Brentano School remains highly relevant today. It continues to influence various disciplines such as linguistics, cognitive science, and communication studies.

Understanding how language functions and the relationship between language, perception, and thought allows us to explore topics such as language acquisition, the role of language in shaping our reality, and the biases embedded within linguistic structures.

The Brentano School's contributions to the philosophy of language have had a lasting impact on our understanding of how language works and its role in shaping human cognition. Exploring the intentional nature of meanings and the influence of context on language use opened new avenues of research and transformed the way we analyze and interpret linguistic phenomena.



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This collection of fourteen original essays addresses the seminal contribution of Franz Brentano and his heirs, to philosophy of language. Despite the great interest provoked by the Brentanian tradition and its multiple connections with early analytic philosophy, precious little is known about the Brentanian contribution to philosophy of language. The aim of this new collection is to fill this gap by providing the reader with a more thorough understanding of the legacy of Brentano and his school, in their pursuit of a unique research programme according to which the analysis of meaning is inseparable from philosophical inquiries into what goes on in the mind and what there is in the world.

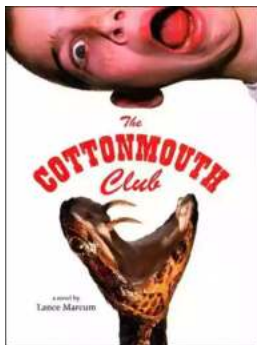
In three parts, the volume first reconstructs Brentano's pathbreaking thoughts on meaning and grammatical illusions, exploring their strong connections with the Austro-German tradition and analytic philosophy. It then addresses the multifaceted debates on the objectivity of meaning in the Brentano School and its aftermath (Meinong, Husserl, Ingarden, Twardowski and the Lvov-Warsaw School). Finally, part three explores Brentano's wider legacy, namely: Husserl's theory of modification and typicality, Bühler's theory of linguistic and non-linguistic expressions, and Wittgenstein's thoughts on guidance and rule-following.

The result is a unique collection of essays which shows the significance, originality and timely character of the Brentanian philosophy of language.



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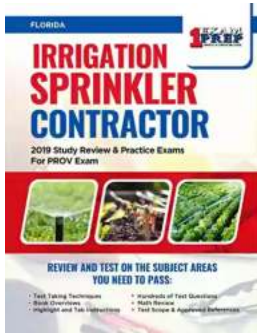
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