Philosophy 190: David Lewis

Short Writing Assignment 7

Due Thurs., May 22.

Instructions

Note: this assignment is for students in Group III *only* (see syllabus for a list of group assignments).

Please respond to the following question in two pages or less (double spaced). (Needless to say this should be your own original work.)

In "Meaning and Synoymy in Natural Languages" (pp. 43–4), Carnap discusses two methods for determining the meaning of the robot's vocabulary: one method that relies on observations of the robot's behavior, and another called "the method of structural analysis." How might Quine adapt his arguments in "Ontological Relativity" to apply to the second method, as well as the first?