COMPS READING LIST FOR PHILOSOPHY OF LANGUAGE

Anyone who plans on taking a comprehensive exam in the philosophy of language should consult the following list. This applies if philosophy of language is a major, or a minor, area of specialization. The list should be viewed as a template for constructing a more customized list that reflects the student's particular interests. Students are encouraged to offer creative alternatives, either to individual readings or to an entire topic. The final list is to be agreed upon by the student and their committee.

Theories of Reference
1. "On Sense and Reference," G. Frege
2. "On Denoting," B. Russell
3. "On Referring," P. Strawson
4. "Reference and Definite Descriptions," K. Donnellan
5. *Naming and Necessity,* S. Kripke
6. "Meaning and Reference,"
8. "The Causal Theory of Names," G. Evans
9. "Proper Names and Intentionality," J. Searle
10. "That," D. Kaplan

Theories of Meaning
1. The Thought: A Logical Inquiry," G. Frege.
2. "Eliminating Metaphysics Through the Logical Analysis of Language," R. Carnap
3. "The Two Dogmas of Empiricism," W.V.O. Quine
4 "Meaning," H.P. Grice
5. "Truth and Meaning," D. Davidson
6. "Meaning and Truth," P. Strawson
7. *Blue and Brown Books* (selections from), L. Wittgenstein
8. "General Semantics," D. Lewis

Pragmatics and Speech Acts
1. "Performative Utterances," J. Austin
2. "What is a Speech Act?," J. Searle
3. "Indirect Speech Acts, J. Searle
4. "Logic and Conversation," H.P. Grice
5. "Inference and Implicature," D. Sperber and D. Wilson
6. "Assertion," P. Geach
7. "Intention and Convention in Speech Acts," Strawson

Metaphor, etc
1. "Metaphor," M. Black
2. "What Metaphors Mean," D. Davidson
3. "Metaphor," J. Searle
4. *Metaphors we Live By Lakoff,* G. Lakoff and M. Johnson
5. "Metaphor," E. Camp and M. Reimer

6."Loose Talk," D. Sperber and D. Wilson
7. "Irony and the Use-Mention Distinction," D. Sperber and D. Wilson

Highly Recommend: William's Lycan's *Philosophy of Language: A Contemporary Introduction*, Steven Davis's *Pragmatics: A Reader*, and Peter Ludlow's *Readings in the Philosophy of Language*