

24.400
Proseminar in philosophy I

Fall 2003

Sense and Sensibilia

1. "We do not directly perceive such objects as pens and cigarettes; rather, we perceive them indirectly".
 - (a) Assess Austin's criticisms of this view.
 - (b) Assess Jackson's account of the "mediate-immediate" distinction (see the attached few pages from *Perception*, 1977).
2. (a) What is the first stage of the argument from illusion? (In the form of premises and conclusion.)
 - (b) Does the first stage trade on not distinguishing illusions from delusions?
3. (a) What is the second stage of the argument from illusion? (In the form of premises and conclusion.)
 - (b) Assess Austin's criticisms.
4. Is Austin correct in claiming that Ayer's way of 'proving' that the whole issue is purely verbal actually shows that he does not regard it as really verbal at all?