PHILOSOPHY

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Language, communication, inheritance: non-representation models

It is discussed non-representational models of informational and cognitive processes in biological and social systems. On the basis of recent studies, it is shown that such models are effective for the description of the simplest forms of communication and cognition (minimal cognition) and for depicting processes of transmission ("coding") of hereditary information. It is emphasized that within the frameworks of non-representational models such concepts as "signal", "code", "sign", "meaning", "communication", "information" and many others are studied not as self-sufficient realities, but as constituents of general system processes that are singled out only theoretically. J. Stewart compares such a holistic (non-representational) approach with metonymy, where the part represents and is represented by the whole, and the representative one with metaphor, in which one phenomenon symbolizes (represents) something else. Summing studies in this field, the work states the necessity of theoretical and methodological unity of representative and non-representative (causal, holistic, pragmatic) models of inheritance, cognition and communication. It is shown that non-representational models of cognition can be used to analyze embodied cognition, for example in humans, and representational models can be used to analyze developed forms of communication and cognition in nature and society.

Key words: direct realism, representation, embodied cognition, information, inheritance, communication.

September 7, 2021