

### Background Questionnaire

This questionnaire is designed to help me learn how much background in semantics you already have. You are not at all expected to already know the answers to the following questions. Feel free to leave blank those questions you are presently unable to answer.

- 1) Have you ever before taken a course in formal, truth-conditional semantics, either at the graduate or undergraduate level?
  
- 2) Can you explain in a few lines why truth-conditions are relevant for a theory of meaning?
  
- 3) Can you calculate the values of the following expressions?
  - a.  $[\lambda x. [\lambda y. x^2 + y](5)](4)$
  - b.  $[\lambda x : [\lambda y : x \text{ likes } y]](\text{Tom})$
  
- 4) Could you please comment briefly on the following claim: “The semantic type of the phrase *every boy* is  $\langle e, t \rangle$ ?”
  
- 5) Are you familiar with what a ‘conversational implicature’ is? If so, do you recall how one distinguishes an ‘implicature’ from the asserted content of a sentence? Do you recall how they relate to Grice’s conversational maxims?
  
- 6) Suppose you observe that an utterance of sentence S always seems to imply that  $p$ . How do you tell whether  $p$  is a *presupposition* or an *assertion* of S?