



1. Ayer uses the verification principle to show that a great deal of philosophical work is nonsense.
2. He thinks the real business of philosophy is to clarify meanings of concepts.
3. His work is heavily based on Hume and highly influenced by the Vienna Circle.
4. example of a statement
5. i) is it true by definition? ii) is it in principle verifiable?
6. a proposition is something that would make sense in an language
7. putative is like potential or 'presenting itself as' as it may yet be shown to be false. SUPPOSED
8. example of true by definition
9. empirical statements can be tested to find if they are true
10. verifiable means it can be shown to be either true or false...
11. it can be shown to be false
12. three poss:
 - a. meaningful & true
 - b. meaningful & false
 - c. nonsense
13. a strong approach would demand him to find conclusive evidence for propositions that could only ever be inductively demonstrated...Ayer adopts a 'weak' stance, meaning that observation that proves/disproves must be possible though not necessary actual.
14. some critics say virtually nothing could survive strong verifiability, Ayer answers this in his 2nd edition.
15. Ayer thinks that metaphysics and poetry differ as there is little poetry with absolutely no meaning... poetry is often demonstrably incorrect and so meaningful...
16. Philosophy is a branch of logic
17. Ayer thinks induction does not require a justification. All meaningful questions can be answered.
18. two possible justifications:
 - a. to show that something
- 19.