

The Vocabulary of Epistemology, with Observations on Some Surprising Shortcomings of the English Language.*

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Dedicated to Kevin Mulligan on the occasion of his 60th birthday.

After some observations on the conference performance of Kevin Mulligan, the paper notes shortcomings in the English epistemic vocabulary concerning the crucial terms knowledge, science, evidence, certainty, proof, demonstration, and proposition.

· At the request of its Rector, Prof. Björn Wittrock, I first presented these considerations in a lecture at *The Swedish Colloquium for Advanced Study*, Uppsala, on February 11, 2009, on the occasion of a visit from the Unit for Advanced Study, Faculty of Social Science, University of Tampere. Subsequently they were repeated in a seminar at the *Archives Poincaré*, Nancy, on April 28, 2010, during the tenure of a Visiting Professorship. I am indebted to both institutions for generous hospitality and to my audiences for helpful discussion.