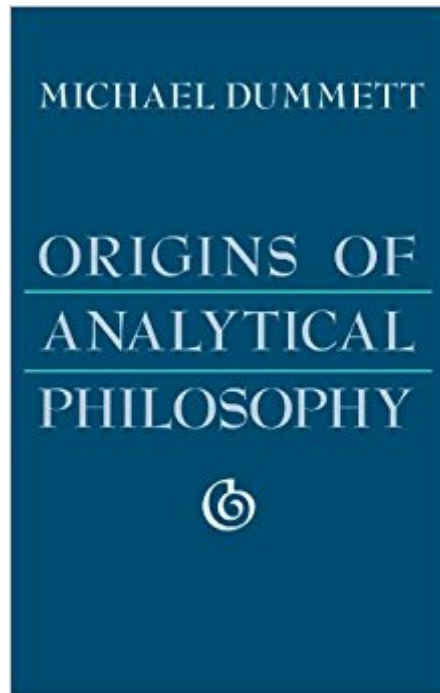




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Origins Of Analytical Philosophy



Synopsis

For half a century analytical philosophy has dominated professional philosophy in English-speaking countries. When contrasted with "Continental" philosophy, analytical philosophy is often called "Anglo-American." Michael Dummett argues that this is a misnomer: "Anglo-Austrian" would be a more accurate label, for analytical philosophy arose in the same milieu as the principal rival school of phenomenology. Furthermore, the two schools have the same roots. By reexamining the similar origins of the two traditions, we can come to understand why they later diverged so widely, and thus take the first step toward reconciliation.

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Customer Reviews

Dummett rightly says that many of the roots of analytical philosophy are to be found in German-speaking lands...The defining characteristic of analytical philosophy [he argues] is its attempt to base a comprehensive philosophical account of thought on a philosophical account of language. For anyone interested in that project, this book would be an excellent investment. It shows, clearly and concisely, how the essential first step for such a project is what Dummett calls 'the extrusion of thought from the mind.' (Economist)

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This is not exactly what I was expecting but MD explains right at the beginning that he did not mean it to be a history - which is what I thought it would be. Instead it details what led up to the linguistic turn mostly in German thought. Russell and Moore do not figure into this at all. MD hopes that someone will do a history of that sort - since 96 has anyone done that? I know Ray Monk has done wonderful biographies of Wittgenstein and Russell but does anyone know of a history of Analytical Philosophy?

the best book I've ever read

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