維特根斯坦的反本質主義思想: 從一篇最早文獻開始的考察

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摘要: 維特根斯坦的反本質主義思想,乃是對亞里士多德充分必要條件式的 定義的反對。本文從維特根斯坦哲學思想的一篇最早書面紀錄開始,檢視其 反本質主義思想如何在他投入哲學研究之始,便已隨著對亞里士多德哲學的 批判而萌芽,及後,又如何體現於其家族相似理論,甚至啟發認知語言學, 促成了元型理論的誕生。作為語言表現,這種反本質主義甚至尚反映在作為 維特根斯坦個人特色的發散性思維與行文風格上。

關鍵詞:維特根斯坦;反本質主義;家族相似;哲學研究;認知語言學;元型(原型)

Abstract: Wittgenstein's anti-essentialism is an opposition to Aristotelian definition consisting in necessary and sufficient conditions. This article begins with his earliest written records of philosophical thoughts, examining how his anti-essentialism had already sprouted at the beginning of his philosophical career, along with his criticism of Aristotelianism, and how they were later shown in his family resemblance theory, and even inspired Cognitive Linguistics, leading to the birth of the prototype theory. As linguistic expression, this anti-essentialism is even evident in Wittgenstein's signature divergent thinking and writing style.

Keywords: Wittgenstein; Anti-essentialism; Family resemblance; Philosophical investigations; Cognitive linguistics; Prototype

一、緒言

常言道,路德維希•維特根斯坦(Ludwig Wittgenstein)在 20 世紀為哲學界帶來了一場深層次的變革,那便是所謂的哲學的「語言轉向」(Linguistic turn)
¹。實際上,處於整場哲學「語言轉向」軸心位置的,便是原初版本的反本質主

¹ 這一提述方式是從 1967 年 Richard Rorty 主編的一本論文集開始廣為人用。其後來的再版,參見 Richard M. Rorty, ed., *The Linguistic Turn: Essays in Philosophical Method* (University of Chicago Press, 1992).