**Ontology and Natural Language**

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Natural language appears to involve its own ontology, an ontology that may be different   
from what particular philosophers are willing to accept and what even what 'ordinary'   
people accept when reflecting upon 'what there is'. In many cases, however, a deeper   
level of linguistic analysis uncovers a somewhat different ontological picture associated   
with natural language than what philosophers generally attribute to it. In this paper I   
will discuss a range of such cases (involving tropes, modals, and propositional   
attitudes) as well as the relevant sorts of linguistic methods and greater range of   
linguistis data that may bear on the issue. The paper will also address the general   
question of how the ontology associated with natural language is to be understood and to   
what extent it should be identified with our 'cognitive' ontology in general.